

ハイスクール ロ×ロ

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旧校舎のディアボロス

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「……うん」

何やら艶っぽい声が聞こえた。

「……すーすー」

寝息を立てる紅髪の女の子が

俺の隣で寝ている。

ハイスクール ロックス

1

旧校舎のディアボロス

俺はアーシアの手を強く握ってやる。

「今日一日、普通に話せたじゃないか。」

それでいいんだよ。

俺たちはもう友達として話していたんだ」

「……私と友達になつてくれるんですが?」



一気にグンッとレイナーレの
腕を引いて、身を寄せる。
絶対に逃がさない。

「逃がすか、バカ。吹っ飛ばせ！」
グン天使ッ！」

The same color as that person's hair color.

That's what I thought while I was covered in blood. Red---. A crimson color which is more brilliant than strawberry-blonde. Yes. That person's beautiful and long crimson hair has the same color as the color my hand is covered with.

Life 0

Hyoudou Issei is my name. My parents and friends call me Ise.

I'm currently experiencing the time of my youth.

Students with whom I'm not familiar would often say "Isn't that Ise?", and make me wonder how they know my name.

I'm popular you say?

No, that's not it. I'm famous because I have been accused of peeping inside the Kendo Club's changing room.

What kind of perverted person do people think I am? I wouldn't do such a shameless thing as peeping into the girls' changing room.....

Sorry. I was at the scene. I was in the storage room next to the kendo club. There was a hole in the wall, where I was trying to peep from.

Unfortunately I couldn't have a look because Matsuda and Motohama wouldn't get away from the hole. Seriously, those guys...

I was seriously getting horny and couldn't calm myself down because these two idiots kept on saying, "Ohhh! Murayama seriously has big tits!" and "Ahhh, Katase has nice legs".

Of course I wanted to have a look! But there was someone approaching the storage room so I ran from the scene.

However, something so blissful happened to a guy like me, who would be doing all sorts of perverted stuff every day.

"Please go out with me."

A confession from a girl!

I felt what it was like to be a youth.

For a guy like me who never had a girlfriend before, that was like a dream come true.

The name of my girlfriend was Yuuma Amano. She had silky black hair, and a slender body.

She was so cute that I fell in love with her at first sight.

Anyone would say yes if some beauty came up to you and said "I love you, Hyoudou-kun! Please go out with me!"

That would be like something out of dream for a guy like me who never had a girlfriend since I was born.

It wouldn't be weird if someone says "What bishoujo game did you get that from?", but it seriously happened!

It's a miracle but I did get a confession from a beauty.

I actually thought it was a joke played by her and her friends. That can't be helped.

Until then, I believed that I was a guy who was destined to never feel a girls love. But since that day, I had been a guy with a girlfriend. The world around me changed, and something inside me changed as well.

I wanted to say "It's my win" to every guy I walked past. I started to feel sorry for my two buddies, Matsuda and Motohama, who didn't have a girlfriend. That's how confident I became.

On our first date, I was ready to use the plan that I had made a while back.

Hahahaha, I've brushed my teeth dozens of times since yesterday night and there is not a single place I missed. I even bought new pants in case a little somethin' somethin' happened.

With the attitude of a virgin guy, I arrived at the meeting spot for the day three hours early. I counted up to a hundred girls who were wearing glasses walked in front of me. During that time I received a weird article from a suspicious looking person. It was an occult-looking thing with a weird magic symbol and a sentence written on it: "Your dream will be granted!" I wanted to throw it away, but I decided to put it in my pocket because I didn't have time to spare.

When Yuuma-chan arrived, I said "Don't worry, I also just got here". Bullseye! I always wanted to say that. We then started to walk while holding hands. I was so moved that tears were about to drop because I was holding the hand of a beautiful girl on a date. After that, we went to different kinds of shops, enjoying our date. For lunch, we ate at a family restaurant where Yuuma-chan was eating a chocolate parfait, and I was full just by looking at her. I felt as if I understood how other teenagers feel when they go on a date. I felt as if I was alive for the first time.

Mum, thanks for giving birth to me. Dad, I was worried that our family wasn't going to have any descendants, but it looks like you don't have to worry about that anymore.

As I was thinking about all those sorts of things, it was already afternoon. Kiss!? Kiss before going home!? My head was getting hyped by only thinking about that! Oh maybe we will even go further..... That's what a horny male high school student like me was thinking about during the whole time.

We were at the park which was away from the town. The sky was getting dark, and save for us the place was empty. Because of that, I imagined even more perverted stuff. I should have read a

book which teaches you to do even more naughty stuff. Yuuma-chan was already away from me, standing before the fountain.

“It was fun today.”

That's what she said while smiling.

Damn, she's cute. The environment around her gives off a good atmosphere.

“Hey, Ise-kun.”

“What is it, Yuuma-chan?”

“There is something I want to do to celebrate our first date.”

Oh yes! It's here! The moment I was waiting for! My breath smells nice, and my heart is ready for it. My heart was racing like crazy.

“Um, what is it that you want?”

Aaaah. The tone of my voice is deep. She must think that I'm thinking of naughty stuff. Did I screw up? But Yuuma-chan was still smiling at me, and she said to me clearly...

“Would you die for me?”

.....Ummm. Huh?

“Ummm? That....Huh? Sorry, can you repeat that again? I think there's something wrong with my ears.”

I must have heard it wrong. That must be it. So I asked her again. But.....

“Would you die for me?”

She said it again, while laughing. The sentence which didn't make any sense. I was there holding my smile and was about to say, “That's so funny Yuuma-chan.”

-BASA- Black wings appeared from her back. Her black wings were making noises and they touched the ground after a moment.

What is that? I know that Yuuma-chan is cute like an angel. Angel? That can't be it. Is it some kind of acting? Her black wings make a good match with the darkness of the night. It must be some kind of illusion. But I wouldn't believe something like that. Her eyes changed from cute girlish eyes to cold and scary ones.



“It was fun, the short time I spent with you. It was like playing couple with a little child.”

Yuuma-chan’s voice was very cold. Her tone was like an adult’s. Her mouth was forming a cold smile.

Buzz. There was a sound much heavier than the noise that a game system makes. That thing was making lots of buzzing noise and it appeared in her hands. That thing looks like a spear. Is it glowing? Actually, that *is* a spear.

Then, there was the sound of the wind followed by a nasty noise. Slash. Something felt like it pierced my stomach. Then I realized that the spear Yuuma-chan had was piercing through my stomach. She stabbed it into me, but why? I tried to get the spear out of me, but it disappeared. The only thing left was a huge hole in my stomach and a great amount of blood oozing out. My head was getting dizzy, and my eyesight was getting bad. When I realized it, I was already lying on the ground. There were foot steps closing in on me. A small voice reached me. It was Yuuma-chan’s.

“Sorry. You were a threat to us so we decided to get rid of you early. If you want to hold a grudge, then hate the God who put the Sacred Gear inside you.”

.....Sacred...what?

I couldn’t let my voice out and heard her footsteps moving away from me. At the same time, my eyes were getting blurry. The hole in my stomach must be critical, though I didn’t feel any pain. Although I realized that I was in a seriously bad condition because I felt that I was about to lose consciousness. It must feel nice if I lose consciousness. But if that happens, I will certainly die. Are you serious? Am I going to die at this age? I haven’t even lived half of my life yet! How can I laugh if I die because I was stabbed by my girlfriend! Lots of things inside me were disappearing along with my consciousness. What’s going to happen at school tomorrow? Will Matsuda and Motohama be shocked? Will they cry for me? Ha-ha, not in a hundred years... Mum, Dad... I haven’t done anything to please them yet. Oh crap. It’s not going to be funny if they find the porno magazines after I die. Why the heck am I only thinking of that kind of stuff when I’m dying? My hand could still move. I touched my stomach and brought it in front of me. It’s red, crimson red. My whole hand is red. It’s all my blood. Then I thought of this girl. The beautiful girl with the crimson red hair. Every time I saw her, my eyes were drawn to her crimson red hair. If I was going to die, I wished it was inside the arms of a beautiful girl like that. Am I cheating on my girlfriend Yuuma-chan, if I think like that? Hold on, she was the one who killed me... If I was going to die, I wished I could have groped her tits. Oh man, I can’t stop thinking about perverted stuff even before my death. Oh crap. My eyes are getting even more blurry. Is it finally the end? Damn I’ve had a crappy life. If I was to be reborn, I want to be....

“You are the one who called me, right?”

Suddenly someone appeared in front of me, along with her voice. I can’t tell who it is, since my eyes are blurry.

“Looks like you are dying. Your wound....Oh my, looks like something interesting is happening. So it’s you... It is really interesting.”

She’s laughing as if she found something interesting. What's so funny that it makes her laugh..?

“If you are dying then, I’ll take care of you. Your life will belong to me, and you will live for me.”

Before I lost consciousness, I saw crimson red hair in front of me.

Life 1: Gave up on being human

‘WAKE-UP! WAKE-UP! IF YOU DONT WAKE-UP I’M GOING...TO KISS....YOU’

“Ummm...”

An alarm clock with the voice of a tsundere whose function is to wake the person up, but unfortunately it couldn’t wake up its owner. That “owner” is mumbling on the floor because he has fallen down from his bed. That would be me. That was an awful dream..... I saw that awful dream again. Lately it’s been the same dream. The dream where I was killed by Yuuma-chan. But since I’m standing here alive, that had to be a dream.

“Ise! Wake up!”

Mum’s voice came from the stairs, just like every morning.

“I know! I’m awake!”

After replying I got up from the floor.

Haa... Looks like my day has begun with a bad start. I feel so down..... I made a large sigh while putting my arms through my uniform.

“I’m going.”

I left the house while yawning. During the walk to school, I can’t help but close my eyes due to the sunlight.

Oh man, it's so bothersome. Lately the sun has been giving me a bad feeling. The sunlight feels like it is piercing through my skin and I can’t stand it. Anyway the morning sunshine is totally bad for me and I can’t wake up in the morning.

Since I don’t wake up, lately my mum comes and wakes me up roughly. Instead, at night, I become “stronger”. There is something inside my body that comes out and makes my tension high. I’ve completely become a “night” person. Weird, something is wrong. I do stay up late often, but it would be a “miracle” if I could even stay awake till 1 o'clock in the morning. But lately I can easily stay awake, even up to 4 o'clock in the morning. Lately I go to sleep after the sun comes up, and that has been my daily routine. I’m not addicted to online games nor am I addicted to night shows. What’s happening to my body? Is my brain trying to not sleep so I don’t have to watch the dream where my girlfriend kills me? Well that’s just my personal feeling, so that can’t be it. It would be natural for the body to feel the need of going to sleep.

The feeling at night is completely different from before. To test it, I went out at night and the walking pace of my footsteps is faster and my heart shakes with joy when I go into dark places at night. I dashed at night, and to my surprise it gave me incredible speed. If I joined the track team,

I would easily become the best. I can even do a full marathon as if I'm jogging and I don't lose any stamina. I became over-confident and when I ran in the morning, I lost my stamina easily. It would be average speed for a high school student but there is a huge gap between my "night-self" and my "day-self". I become weird at night. It would sound like a phrase coming from a freak, the feeling at night is changing me into a different person.

Ahgg... The sunlight is still strong. Unlike at night, I become totally "weak" during the day. No matter how much I think about it, something is definitely wrong with my body. Since the day after my date with Yuuma-chan, I can't help but think that my body has changed.

The school I go to is a private school, Kuou Academy. Before it was a girls only school, but now it's a co-ed. So the ratio of girls is higher than boys, but as the year goes on the number of boys increases. But overall, there are more girls compared to boys. I'm a 2nd year high school student, and in my class the ratio of girls to boys is 7:3. For 3rd year students it is 8:2. Even now the girls have a stronger authority and the majority of the people in the Student Council are girls, even the School President is a girl. It's a school where boys can't do whatever they like but I joined this school. It's simple. This place has more girls, and that is a wonderful thing. This school is said to be hard to get into, but I got in thanks to my bad intentions, which is to study while being surrounded by girls. Just for that reason, I am currently attending this school.

What's wrong with that!? What's wrong with being a horny guy!? It's my life! No one has the right to say anything to me! I'm going to build a harem in this school! And that was my mission when I entered this school. But now I feel depressed. Since there are so many girls here, I thought I could make 2 or 3 girlfriends easily.

But I was wrong. Only one group of good looking guys are popular, but girls don't even look at me. To be more precise, they ignore me like trash lying on the floor. Shit! This wasn't in my plan! It can't be! In my plan, I was supposed to get my first girlfriend straight after I entered this school! After that I would have broken up with her and started dating a new girl, and so on. And by the time I graduate, heaps of girls were supposed to fight over me in a Battle Royale! At this rate, my objective would be just a dream! Wait, is it already a dream!? What is wrong!? The era I was born in? Or is there something wrong with me.....? No.....! I don't want to think about it! That is the daily things I am thinking about.

I arrived at my classroom while making a big sigh, and sat down on my chair.

"Hey, buddy. How was the porno video I lent you? It was some good stuff, wasn't it?"

The guy who came to speak to me has a bald head and is my buddy number 1: Matsuda. At first glance he looks like an experienced sportsman, but he is a perverted guy who says sexually harassing comments daily. During junior school he was a super good sportsman and he set several records but now he is in the photography club. He wants to get pictures of girls from every angle, so he is nicknamed the 'Perverted Baldy' and the 'Sexual Harassment Paparazzi'.

"Hmm, the wind was strong this morning wasn't it? Thanks to that I was able get a good view of the girl's panties."

The guy with the glasses, who is acting cool is buddy number 2: Motohama. His glasses have an ability which lets him get the numerical value of girl's measurements. His nickname is "Perverted Glasses", and "BWH calculator". These two are my buddies. Seriously, every time I look at these two I feel like a "loser".

"I got some nice stuff".

Matsuda took out a load of inappropriate magazines and DVD's from his bag, and put them on my desk with no hesitation.

"Heee!"

There was a small scream from a girl on the other side of the class. Well, that would be a normal reaction, since something like "this" is happening in the morning.

"Sick brats."

"Die you filthy beasts!"

Following the scream, there were negative comments coming from other girls.

"Silence! This is our entertainment! Girls and kids shouldn't look and keep away! Or else I will rape all of you in my imagination!"

Nice sexual harassment speech as always, Matsuda-kun. Not long ago, I would be saying "Wow, where did you get these treasures from!" with glittering eyes. But since I'm in a terrible state every morning lately, I don't feel like getting loud or noisy about it. Matsuda makes a sigh while looking at my face.

"What is it with you? There is this many treasures in front of you and your expression is boring."

"What's wrong with you? You aren't your usual self lately. It's definitely weird."

Motohama also makes a comment while poking his glasses.

"I also want to get excited with all of this, but lately I don't have the energy to get excited."

"Do you have some illness? That can't be. The guy who is a 'manifestation of all sexual desires' like you can't be sick."

Motohama says a rude comment about me. Seriously, this bastard is rude.

"Oh, is it that? The hallucination about the imaginary girlfriend you have. Yuuma-chan, was it? Is that giving you a side effect?"

"Do you guys seriously not remember Yuuma-chan?"

Both of them started looking at me with sad eyes after my question.

“We seriously don’t know her. You really should get a doctor to check you. Isn’t that right, Motohama?”

“Yeah, and we’ve been saying dozens of times that we don’t know anyone with that name.”

They are always like this every time I ask them about Yuuma-chan. I thought they were just playing a joke. But after talking to them seriously, I found out that they were telling the truth. I definitely remember introducing Yuuma-chan to them. They were saying things like “How come a babe like her is going out with Ise!” and “There must be a system error occurring. Ise, you haven’t done anything illegal have you?” and kept on making rude comments. I remember I was getting cocky and said, “You guys should get girlfriends as well”. I remember that time very clearly. But they don’t, and they don’t even remember about Yuuma-chan. It’s as if Yuuma Amano never existed. It’s as if the time I spent with Yuuma-chan never happened and it’s just like the hallucination these two were talking about. Like these two proved, there is no record of Yuuma’s mobile number or mail address in my mobile phone. Was it deleted from the memory? Did someone delete it? That can’t be! I didn’t delete it, so who did!?

I called the number that I remembered, but that phone number isn’t currently in use. So does that mean she didn’t exist? Was it all my imagination? Something crazy like that could never happen, but apart from my memory, there is no evidence to prove that she existed. If I think about it, I don’t know her home address. She was a student from another school, and I found the school where they were wearing the same uniform as her. So I asked the students from that school about Yuuma-chan, but they said there was no student with that name. So who was my girlfriend? Who was I dating? So the dream I’ve been having is just a fantasy that I made up? Was I talking to Matsuda and Motohama as if this was all reality? That would make me a freak. I clearly remember her face. There’s something wrong about all of this, even the strange strength I get at night. But what is it? While I was thinking about these past incidents, Matsuda rested his hand on my shoulder.

“It can’t be helped, I guess. We are in the middle of our youth, so it might be normal for us to behave like this. Okay then, you guys come over to my place after school. I’ll show you some of my secret collection.”

“That’s an excellent idea, Matsuda-kun. You should definitely invite Ise-kun as well.”

“Of course I am, Motohama-kun. We are boys who are filled with lots of sexual desire. If we don’t do anything about it, it will be rude to our parents who gave birth to us.”

The two of them are smirking. They are so perverted. No matter how you look at them, they are just some perverted creeps. And sadly, I am one of them. Well, who cares, since I also live for these kinds of things.

“Okay then! Today, we won’t hold back! We’ll get some drinks and food while watching porn!”

“Yeah, that’s it! That’s definitely the Ise we know!”

“That’s the spirit. We need to celebrate the happiness of being born as a guy.”

Matsuda and Motohama are getting all excited. I will leave the incident about Yuuma-chan on hold. I need to take a break sometime as well! Today I will forget about the incident and get hooked into porn!

That’s when it happened. After we made the plan for the afternoon, there was a crimson red color which caught my attention. From the classroom window, I glanced at a certain girl, who was at the school court. I wasn’t able to take my eyes off a girl who was walking towards the school building. She had a crimson red hair, and her beauty wasn’t that of a human being. Her slim proportion wasn’t the shape of a Japanese girl. Obviously she isn’t Japanese, and people say that she is from Northern Europe. Anyone would get their heart taken by her, after witnessing her beauty. Her name is Rias Gremory, our school idol. She is a 3rd year student, and hence my senior. I realized that everyone was looking at her, both guys and girls. Matsuda and Motohama were also looking at her. This happens every day. Everyone looks at her when she walks past them. Some people stop walking while some stop talking just to watch her walk past them. The wind gently blows her hair, while everyone is watching her. Her hair came down to her hips and her hair was blown by the wind again. It looks like the view around her also looks red, just like her hair color. Her beautiful skin, which was white as snow was remarkable. Beautiful, that’s the only word to describe her in one word. That’s the only word you needed to describe her. I always stopped doing anything, every time I looked at her. But lately, the way I looked at her changed. She is beautiful, but she was too beautiful. Her beauty scares me, and I was a bit scared when I looked at her. I don’t know why but I started to feel scared of her after Yuuma-chan disappeared. Then, her eyes moved towards our building and it captured me. I felt as if my heart was grabbed by her. The feeling you get when someone who is more superior is standing in front of you. Her blue eyes changed and her mouth was smiling a bit. Was it directed at me? It can’t be, since I never spoke to her before. Then, I suddenly recollected about the dream I had. At the end of the dream there was a person with red hair who had spoken to me. A person who seemed gentle, but also a bit scary. While I was still contemplating, she was already out of my sight.

“I seriously want to grope some tits!”

While watching porn, I was hugging Matsuda who couldn’t stop crying. We were all happy and excited when we started watching porn straight after school. As we watched more porn, we started to get depressed instead because the question of “Why don’t we have a girlfriend?” came into our discussions.

We talked seriously, and then I felt like crying. Matsuda started crying since 3 movies back. Motohama was acting cool, but behind his glasses you could see tears flowing from his eyes.

Thirty minutes ago Motohama said, “I was asked to come behind the gym from a girl, and it was my first time getting mugged from a girl....”, with a really small voice. Even I was about to cry, after hearing that. I wonder how three boys who are all sullen while watching porn look like?

Obviously the answer is three unpopular guys. I feel like hating this world, after thinking that there are guys of my age who are having sex with a girl right now. While thinking about it, the last film ended and the sky was already dark. When I looked at my watch, it was already 10 o'clock. I had already told my parents that I was at Matsuda's place, but staying here any longer would be a nuisance to his family and I might be late to school tomorrow.

"Anyways I'll get going now".

After I said that, all of us stood up and got ready to pack up.

"See-ya".

After we split up with Matsuda at the entrance, Motohama and I started heading home.

"It's a beautiful night. Since it's a good night, it would be normal to watch porn."

Motohama said some weird crap while looking at the sky with a big sigh. He looked totally depressed. Well by tomorrow, both Motohama and Matsuda will return to their usual self so it's alright I guess.

"See you tomorrow."

"Yeah, have a nice dream."

Motohama is waving his hands, but you could tell that he's still depressed. I will probably send him a text message afterwards to cheer him up.

A few minutes after splitting up with Motohama, I was still walking towards home. But I could feel some weird energy flowing within my body. It's a symptom of the becoming "superhuman at night" thing. Something is definitely wrong with my body. This isn't a normal phenomenon. My eyes become better along with my other five senses. My eyes and ears became especially good. I could even hear conversations from other people's houses, and I could even see the street even though it's night. I could even see places where there were no lights, so this is insanely weird! It feels like this strength is getting stronger day by day. This isn't just a suspicion. Because the chills I'm feeling all over my body now are the real deal!

I could feel I was being watched by someone. This person is looking at me with cold eyes. I could feel a mysterious atmosphere ahead of me. My body started to shake, and the shaking gets stronger as I move forward. It's a man. There is a man wearing a suit who is looking at me with such fierce eyes, and his eyes are very scary. It feels like my body will freeze if I look directly in his eyes. Isn't this what you call a killing intent? You could definitely tell that he is looking at me as if I am his enemy. No, this is something more dangerous. This is definitely a killing intent. The man walks closer, very slowly. But he is definitely walking towards me! So he is after me! Pervert!? A dangerous person!? Am I in trouble!? I must be in trouble because my body doesn't stop shaking! Why did I have to encounter some dangerous guy while on my way home!?

“This is rare. To meet someone like you in a place like this.”

“...?”

What is he saying? No, no, it won't be weird if crazy people like him talk some nonsense. So he is a dangerous guy after all! Oh shit! What should I do if he takes out a knife!? I don't know any self defense martial arts, nor have I ever had a fight before! Oh I know! My body becomes insanely strong at night, so I could run for it! I walked backwards to create some distance between us. The mysterious guy started walking towards me with a normal pace.

“What, trying to run away? Who is your master? It must be a person with a very low rank or with a weird hobby to choose this place as a territory. So, who is your Master?”

I don't even know what the heck you are saying! I turned around and sprinted to the place I came from at full speed. Fast. It was insanely fast. It is weird for me to say it, but the speed of my run at night is insane. I kept on running and went into unfamiliar streets. I'm not tired or anything. I can keep on running. If that's the case, then I'm going to run till there is some distance between us. After about 15 minutes, I came into an area with lots of space. It's a park. I stopped running, and walked instead. I went up to the water fountain as I was inhaling some air. I looked around the park under the light lamp. Something feels mysterious about this place. I know this place. Yes, this is the last place I visited on the date with Yuuma-chan! Man, what a coincidence or should I say miracle? Did I come here unconsciously? That can't be...

Chills.

I feel chills behind me. I have a feeling that something is behind me. I turned around slowly, and saw black feathers dropping in front of me. Is it a feather of a crow? No, this isn't.

“Did you think I'll let you escape? That's why a lowly being is a pain in the ass.”

The person who appeared in front of me is wearing a suit and he has black wings growing out of him. It's the suspicious guy from before. An angel.... No, no this isn't a fairy tale so that can't be!? Is it a cosplay? It looks too real for a cosplay. Are those real wings? It can't be!?

“Tell me the name of your master. It's a hindrance to get bothered by your kind. For that we will..... Wait are you an 'exiled one'? If you have no master, then that would explain the worried expression on your face.”

The suspicious guy is mumbling by himself. Don't make up stuff on your own! The situation is serious, but I suddenly remembered about the date incident I had in my dream. The dream where I was killed by Yuuma-chan. Exactly in front of this water fountain. Yes, by Yuuma-chan who had black wings. And there is a guy with black wings in front of me. Is this the thing where a dream becomes a reality? Hey, hey why did a hot chick turn into a guy!? No, that's not important! What's important is the situation I'm currently in! If this is going according that dream, then the next thing which will happen to me is....

“Hmph. I don’t feel any presence of your master nor your comrades. I don’t see anything which is trying to hide its presence either. And there’s no magic teleportation either. According to the current situation, you are an ‘exiled-one’. So it won’t be a problem if I kill you.”

The guy who just said some scary stuff raised his hands. No matter how you look at it, his hand is directed towards me! I can hear a noise. I know this phenomenon. It’s a thing which looks like some kind of lights gathering in his hand. Hold on a sec, this fantasy stuff should just remain in the dream! The lights then shapes into a thing which looks like a spear. A spear... So it is a spear! I was pierced in my stomach by that thing in my dream, and I went through a terrible crisis! I’m going to get killed! But I was already pierced through by that thing in my stomach by the time I was thinking about it. Then something was trying to come out from my mouth. Gohou!? Lots of blood came out of my mouth, followed by intense pain.

It hurts. It hurts so much! I fell down on my knees at that spot. I could feel my insides getting burned. That pain spread throughout my body, and it hurts so much that I can’t stand it. I tried to pull out the spear with my hand, but the pain spread to my hand as I touched it. It’s hot, extremely hot. There are burn marks on the places which touched the spear.

“Guu....aaah....”

I started to whine, because it hurts. It hurts so much! My hand is burned this badly, so this spear is probably burning my organs much more badly than my hands. Then I started to feel more pain. So this is how it feels like to get your inside burnt, huh? Because of the intense pain I’m feeling, tears started to flow out of my eyes. Step, step. Then there was a sound of footsteps coming towards me. I looked up, and the mysterious man made another spear and was holding it in his hand.

“It must hurt. Lights are poisonous to beings like you. Getting hit by it will result in a fatal damage. I thought this spear would kill you, even though I weakened its power. Your body is tougher than I thought. Then I will hit you again with it. But this time I will put a bit more strength in it. Now you are done for.”

Is he trying to finish me off!? I will get killed, if I get hit by that thing again! As I was thinking, I started to look back on the dream I had and remembered about that Crimson red color.

A bright crimson red which was around me.... She won’t come to help me. That was a dream. But is this also a dream then? If it’s a dream then please help me. Even if it’s a dream, I do not want to be in this situation!

Swoof.

I thought I heard the sound of wind, but instead there was an explosion in front of me. When I looked up, there was smoke from the palm of that man’s hand. There was blood spilling out of his hand.

“Don’t you dare touch him.”

There was a woman who walked past me. She has crimson red colored hair. I could tell who it was, even by her back view. The person I saw in my dream. I couldn't tell who it was in the dream because I couldn't see the face. But now I'm certain, that she was the person from my dream.

“...Crimson hair.....You must be a woman from the House of Gremory....”

The man starts to stare at the woman with crimson hair with eyes full of hatred.

“My name is Rias Gremory. How are you doing, Mr. Fallen Angel? If you are trying to hurt this boy, then I won't hold back. “

Rias Gremory. Yes, she is the senior student at my school and the beauty with crimson hair.

“Fufufufu..... Well, well. So this boy belongs to you. So this town is also your territory, huh? Well then. For today I will apologize. But I recommend you to not let your servant loose. People like me might slay him while walking.”

“Thanks for the advice. This town is under my surveillance, so if you get in my way then I won't hold back.”

“I would say the same to you, Heir of the Gremory House. My name is Donnasiege. I hope we won't meet again.”

The man started to spread his black wings, and his body started to float. He then flew up into the sky. So it's safe now..... I felt a bit relieved, but my eyes got blurry and it feels like my consciousness is disappearing. Hey. Isn't this bad? This is definitely bad.

“Oh, are you about to faint? This is definitely a fatal wound. It can't be helped. Hey, where is your house?”

I was lying on the ground, and senpai was talking to me. But I couldn't hear what she was saying. Then my consciousness was cut.

WAKE UP OR I WILL KILL YOU.....WAKE UP OR YOU WILL BE CUT INTO PIECES.....

When I woke up, it was morning. What is this? Did I have a bad dream again? That has to be a dream. But it looked too real. Now I'm here, sleeping in my bed. I was woken up by the yandere voice recorded alarm clock, so it looks like I was dreaming after all. This time it wasn't Yuuma-chan, but a weird guy who was chasing after me. But they both had black wings. Then I shook my head. Pull yourself together, me. Why do I keep on seeing these kinds of dreams? If I remember correctly I went to school as usual, the school was normal as usual. After school I went to Matsuda's house and had a porn marathon and watched porn with Matsuda and Motohama. Then on my way home, I was attacked by a weirdo with wings. .. Then I realized the unusual state I was in. I was naked. I didn't have anything on me. I didn't even wear my

underwear. What is going on! I'm fully naked. I don't remember coming home. Am I losing my memory at this age? I also don't have a habit of sleeping naked either.

"Unnn...."

Huh! I heard a sweet voice. I then started to look besides me carefully.

"ZZZZZZ.....ZZZZZZZZ."

There was a crimson haired girl sleeping besides me. And she was naked..... Her white skin which resembles snow was very bright. Her skin looks very smooth and it was very bad for my eyes.

..... No matter how you look at her, it's senpai, our academy's Idol. Her crimson hair which was spread over the pillow looks very beautiful. Rias Gremory senpai.... Huh? Huh, Huh? Calm down, me. Oh yeah, it's good to count prime numbers to calm myself. 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23.... Daaaah!! I can't! I can't calm myself! Why am I sleeping with Rias-senpai!? What happened!? What happened!? No, what did I do!? Did I do something!? I don't remember! I don't remember one bit! Whyyyyy! I have to remember what I did! No! Why am I in this situation!? Did I have sex with senpai!? Huh? Do people lose their virginity like this!? Impossible! That's impossible! Remember, me! Try to remember valuable memories, me! What did I do!? What kind of stuff was I able to do!? My head was confused, but for a moment I was cornered even more.

"Ise! Wake-up! It's already time for school!"

"Honey, is Ise still in his room?"

"Dear, his shoes are in the entrance so he came home. Staying at a friend's house very late! And on top of that he is late for school! That, I won't forgive!"

A conversation between my parents on the first floor, which could even be heard up here. Then it was followed by footsteps coming up the stairs. The footsteps carry a sound of anger in it, and are rushing up here very noisily. Mum's on her way! Wait! Hold on a sec! If she sees this situation, then it would be bad!

"Wait! I'm already awake! I will get up now!"

"I won't forgive you anymore! We need a small talk about this!"

Mum's pissed! She's coming! She's coming to my room! I can't show her the situation I am in!

"Unnnnn.....Is it morning?"

!! Senpai is whipping her eyes besides me! She woke! She woke up!

Gatcha.

My door opened violently, and senpai woke her upper body up at the same time. My eyes met with mum's eye. She looks mad! She looks very pissed!

“Good morning.”

Senpai greets my mother with a smile. Mum's eye moved from me to senpai. Then mum's facial expression froze. She moved her eyes to me again. I avoided eye contact.

“GET READY QUICKLY.....”



She made a voice of a machine, and she closed the door slowly. After a moment, there was loud noise going down the stairs.

“De, de, de! Deaaaaaaaaaaaaaar!”

“What happened honey? You look like you just saw a ghost? Was Ise masturbating in the morning again?”

“Se, se, se! Sexxxxxxxxxxxx!!! Ise did! With a foreigner!!!”

“Honey! Honey, what happened!?”

“With a foreigner!! Ise did!!!”

“Honey!? Honey!? Honey, calm down!! Honeeeeeey!!”

I could only cover my face with my hand. I could imagine what’s going on downstairs. How could this be! Looks like there is going to be a family discussion after this.... What kind of excuse can I use to explain the current situation I am in?

“Your family is quite lively in the morning”

Senpai got up from my bed and went to pick up her uniform from my desk. A naked senpai. Naked body of a beautiful girl. Ummm, I could see lots of things.... A small hip, white long legs, thigh, nice curved ass, and enormous breasts. I could even see the nipples clearly! Why isn’t she hiding it!? Why isn’t she trying to hide it!? If I had Motohama’s ability “BWH Scouter”; I could easily get the accurate measurements. I’m regretting the fact that I don’t have that ability! But I know one thing. I have seen lots of women’s naked body from magazine and videos, but senpai’s body looks more beautiful than all of those. How should I put it? Art? A body with perfect shape and curves. It looks like one of those nude body paintings or statutes shown at the museum. Perfect. I could only say that the beauty was still amazing after she strips her clothes.

“Se, senpai!”

“What is it?”

“I could see your breasts and stuff!”

I said it while looking at the opposite direction. I wanted to see it, but that’s that, and this is this. I have to endure it.

“If you want to see it, then go ahead.”

Senpai says that while putting her uniform on with a smirk. ----!!! I never knew words like that existed!? A shock went through my body. Tears were coming out of my eyes. Phrases you never learn at school. I was deeply moved by the beautiful phrase.

“Is your stomach alright?”

Senpai asks me about my stomach. Stomach? I started to touch my stomach while looking at her getting dressed.

“You were stabbed yesterday.”

With that statement, I was completely awake. That’s right.... I was stabbed by a guy with wings at the park yesterday. I was stabbed by a spear made up of light particles thingy. But there aren’t any marks left on my stomach. I was sure there was a hole.... It’s not a kind of wound that would heal in a day. There was so much blood coming out of it. That wasn’t a dream? But it was a dream, right?

“By the way, the incident from yesterday wasn’t a dream.”

Senpai told me that, as if she read my mind.

“I was sure that I was wounded....”

“I healed it. It was critical but thanks to your tough body, it was heal-able with my power in a night. We were hugging while naked, and I shared some of my magic power to you because you were in a weak state. I was able to do it, because we are from the same clan. “

What is this person saying? Huh? Hugged each other while naked? Huhhhhhh!!!! Wait, does that mean...!

“It’s alright, because I’m still a virgin.”

She says it as if she read my mind again. Is that so. For some reason I was relieved. Or should I be relieved?

“Don’t make such a weird face. This world is surrounded by many mysterious things that you don’t know.”

Senpai approached me while in her underwear. Her slim fingers started to pat my cheeks. My face started to get red. It can’t be helped since a beauty like her is doing it.

“I am Rias Gremory. And I am a devil.”

Devil? Huh? A joke? Is she for real?

“I am your master. Nice to meet you, Hyodou Issei-kun. Can I call you, Ise?”

I’m not sure, but her smile looks real.

“Itadakimasu-wa.” [1]

To my grandpa in heaven. Right now there is a beauty next to me eating at our home’s dining table.

“These are very delicious, mother.”

“Ummm. Thank you.....”

Both my parents who were sitting across me had weird expressions on their faces. Grandpa, how am I able to fix this weird atmosphere. It’s my first time eating breakfast in this weird atmosphere. I’m not sure what to do in this situation.

“Ise, it’s the meal that Oka-sama made. Eat it.”

Senpai says it with elegance. She’s acting like an older sister.

“Umm, okay.”

I replied quickly and started to throw the food into my mouth.

“Don’t eat it like that. Eat slowly so you can taste the food. This is the precious food that Oka-sama made for us.”

Senpai wiped my mouth with her handkerchief. What is this? What kind of situation am I in?

“Umm, Ise...”

Dad started to talk to me with a trembling voice. You look quite nervous Dad. Don’t worry, so am I.

“From where did this lady come from?”

After hearing that, senpai put her chopstick down and lowered her head.

“Oh my, I apologize for not introducing myself. I made a shame to the House of Gremory. Please let me introduce myself. Oka-sama and Otou-sama, my name is Rias Gremory. I attend the same Academy as Issei-kun, pleased to make your acquaintance.”

Senpai smiles and dad smiles back.

“Is that so... That’s amazing. Hahaha. Are you from a foreign country? Your Japanese sounds natural.”

“Yes, that’s because I have been living in Japan for a long time due to my father’s work.”

Wow, looks like dad is convinced. But mum, who is sitting beside him doesn't.

"Is Rias.....san correct?"

"Yes Oka-sama."

"What kind of relationship do you have with Ise?"

..... That's a good question which would answer the whole situation in the morning. Mum is curious for her answer, but senpai is still smiling.

"We are just senpai and kouhai who are quite close to each other, mother."

"That's a lie!"

Mum rejects the answer immediately. That can't be helped. That excuse won't work, Senpai. That excuse won't work after she saw that situation!

"Be,be, be....Because! On the bed!"

"Ise said he has nightmares, so I was just sleeping with him."

"Just sleeping together!? Both of you were naked!"

"Nowadays, people sleep naked when they sleep together."

That's a big lie. You are amazing, senpai.

"Is that so?... So people sleep naked lately."

Mum!? Is that alright!? You are okay with that!? Then I realize that mum's eyes look weird. It looks hollow as if she was possessed. Then senpai whispers to my ears.

"I'm sorry... It looked like it would become troublesome, so I used my power."

Power? Then I remember what she said earlier.

-I am a devil-

Devil.... So does it mean that all those phenomena were the power of a devil? Senpai resumed eating her breakfast. When I looked at dad, his eyes were also hollow. Did she use her power on him as well....? Devil? What is going on....

Morning walk to school.

I'm walking towards school, but I'm having a hard time because lots of the students are staring at me with fierce eyes. That can't be helped. Next to me is our school's idol, Gremory-senpai. And I am acting like her servant because I am carrying her bag.

“Why is someone like him.....”

“Why is someone vulgar like him next to Rias Onee-sama...”

I could hear screams of both boys and girls from every direction. There were some students who fainted because of the shock. Is it that bad for me to walk besides Senpai! We walked through the school gate and split up at the entrance.

“I will send someone to you afterwards. I'll see you after school.”

She says that while smiling. Send someone? What does she mean? I'm not quite sure, but I walked towards the classroom. When I opened the door, everyone was staring at me. Well that would be normal, since I was with Rias-senpai.

Knock!

Someone hit my head from behind. When I turned around, it was Matsuda. Motohama was beside him as well.

“Give me an explanation!”

Matsuda shouted, and he was also crying. From his expression, I could guess what he wanted to say.

“Until yesterday we were the ‘Unpopular Alliance’ comrades!”

“Ise, first of all tell us what happened after we went home yesterday.”

Unlike Matsuda who was furious, Motohama was acting all calm while fixing his glasses, although his eyes were really sharp. Both of you are scary. But I laughed, and told them with a strong voice.

“Guys, have you ever seen real tits before?”

With that one sentence, both of them trembled with fear.

After school.

“Hi, how are you doing?”

I was looking at the male student who came to see me with my eyes half closed.

The guy in front of me is our school's number 1 best looking prince, Kiba Yuuto.

He captured the school girl's heart with this smile of his. He is in the same year as me, though from a different class. You could hear girls screaming with joy from classes and the corridor. Shut up. It's so damn noisy in here.

"So what business do you have here?"

I replied to him with a negative voice, but he didn't stop smiling.

"I came here by the order of Rias Gremory senpai."

I understood immediately why he was here with that one sentence. So he is the person who senpai told me that she would send.

"Okay, okay. So what do you want me to do?"

"I want you to follow me."

NO!!! Then there were screams from the girls.

"No, No!! Hyoudou and Kiba-kun walking next to each other!"

"You will get infected, Kiba-kun!"

"I won't agree with the Kiba-kun X Hyoudou couple!"

"Maybe its Hyoudou X Kiba-kun couple!?"

The bitches are talking in some weird language. Man, seriously shut up!

"Sigh...Alright."

I told him that I would follow him. To tell the truth, I hate good looking guys. I followed Kiba who was already walking ahead of me.

"He, Hey Ise!"

Matsuda shouts my name.

"Don't worry, friend. I'm not going to have a fight."

So you don't have to worry about me, pal.

"What are you going to do with this DVD 'Me, the molester, and the udon'!"

Matsuda says it out loud while holding the DVD up high. I fled the scene quickly.

I followed Kiba, and the place we went up to was the back of the school building. There was a building which is called the old school building which is surrounded by trees. Apparently it was used a long time ago, and it looks so creepy that it is listed in one of “the seven wonders of school”. The appearance of the building looks very old and is made from wood. There are no broken glass windows, though it is hard to tell by the appearance. It’s old but it’s not that bad.

“Buchou(President) is here.”

That’s what Kiba says. Buchou? Is he talking about senpai? But Buchou? Was she in a particular club? Does it mean he is part of that club as well? It’s getting even more mysterious. But as long as I follow him, I would be meeting with senpai again. We walked up to the 2nd floor of the building, and we went deep into the corridor. Even the corridor looks clean. Even the rooms which aren’t used look clean. If you think about old buildings, it would be full of insects and spider webs. But there aren’t any, so they must be cleaning this building quite often. While I was thinking about those kinds of things, it looks like we ended up at our destination. Kiba stopped his feet in front of a particular classroom. I was shocked by the sign on the door which read “Occult Research Club”. Occult research club!? Just by reading that name made me wonder. I’m not saying that the club sounds weird, but that it’s weird for Rias-senpai to be in this club....

“Buchou, I have brought him.”

Kiba says to the wooden door. Then there was a reply by senpai.

“Come in.”

Looks like she’s inside. Kiba went inside the classroom and I followed him in. I was shocked when I entered the room. There were weird signs and words in every area of the classroom. Floor, wall, and the ceiling were covered in weird signs. And the weirdest looking one was a circle written by signs located in the middle of the room. It looks like a magic circle which takes up most of the space in the room. The room was filled with a weird and creepy atmosphere. There are also a couple of sofas and desks in the room. Huh? There is someone sitting on one of the sofas. It’s a girl with a small build. I know her.... I know that girl! That’s the girl from 1st year, Toujou Koneko-chan! She’s from 1st year but she looks like an elementary student because of her childish face and small body. She’s popular amongst a certain groups of guys. She’s popular amongst the girls as well and is treated as a “mascot”. She is eating youkan(Japanese treat) quietly. She looks sleepy like always. She never shows any kind of emotion at all. She realized we came in, and our eyes met.



“This is Hyoudou Issei-kun.”

Kiba introduces her to me. Koneko-chan bows her head.

“Ah, nice to meet you.”

I also bowed my head. After that she continued eating. Just like the rumor, she doesn't talk much.

Then I heard the sound of water flowing from the back of the room. Is it the sound of a shower? Then I realized there is a shower curtain at the back of the room. There was also a shadow on the curtain. It's the shadow of a girl. There is a girl taking a shower. Huh!? A shower!? This classroom comes with a shower!? Then there was a sound of the shower stopping.

“Here take this, Buchou.”

Huh? There is someone else besides her? I heard the voice of a girl different from senpai's.

“Thank you, Akeno.”

Looks like senpai is changing behind the curtain. I then remembered what happened this morning, and I started to blush. It was an impressive body for senpai. Looks like I won't be needing porn for a while.

“.....What a perverted face.”

A low-pitched voice said it. When I looked at the direction of the voice, it was Toujou Koneko-chan. I looked at her, but she was just eating youkan. Is that so..... Did I actually have a perverted face? I'm sorry then.

Then the curtain opened. There was senpai in her uniform standing. She looked really hot with her wet hair. She looks at me, then smiles.

“I'm sorry. I couldn't take a shower last night because I stayed the night at your place. So I took a shower now.”

Oh yeah. But what's bugging me is that there is a shower in a classroom. Then I looked behind senpai. There was someone behind her.....Are you serious! I was so shocked that I lost my words. A black-hair in a ponytail! The ponytail which is said to be near extinct! The person who is said to be the last person with a ponytail at our school! The pretty face which is always smiling! The person who is a Yamato Nadeshiko even though she is a student! One of our school idols, Himejima Akeno-senpai! The person who is said to be one of the “Top Two Onee-sama” along Rias-senpai! The person who is idolized by both male and female students!

“Oh my, how do you do? My name is Himejima Akeno, pleased to make your acquaintance.”

She introduced herself politely with a smiling face. Her voice tone sounds fascinating.

“Oh..... My name is Hyoudou Issei. Nice to meet you too!”

I introduced myself even though I was nervous. After Rias-senpai confirmed that we finished introducing each other she started talking.

“Looks like everyone is here. Hyoudou Issei-kun. No, let me call you Ise. “

“Ah, yes.”

“We, the occult research club welcome you.”

“Um, okay.”

“As a devil.”

..... Dad and mum. Looks like I’m in for something big.

“Here’s your tea.”

“Oh, thank you.”

I was sitting on a sofa, and Himejima-senpai had made tea for me. I drank it quickly.

“It tastes good.”

“Oh my. Thank you very much.”

Himejima-senpai started laughing very happily. Kiba, Koneko-chan, Rias-senpai and I sat on the sofa surrounding a table.

“Akeno, you sit over here as well.”

“Yes, Buchou.”

Himejima-senpai sat next to Rias-senpai. Then everyone looked at me. Ummm, what is it.... I’m getting nervous because everyone is looking at me in a place like this... Then Rias-senpai moved her lips.

“I will tell you directly. We are all devils.”

Yeah.... You definitely said it directly.

“Your expression says that you don’t believe what I am saying. Well that can’t be helped. You saw the guy with black wings last night?”

She's right. If that wasn't a dream, then I did really see that.

"That's a fallen angel. They were former angels who served God, but they fell down to hell because they had evil intentions. They are also the enemy of us devils."

So now we are talking about a fallen angel. Looks like we are getting into a fantasy genre.

"We, the devils, have been in a war with the fallen-angels since ancient times. We have been fighting over the possession of the underworld, also known as hell in the human world. The underworld is split into two areas of the devil and fallen-angel. The devil forms a pact with humans and receives their sacrifice and increases their strength. The fallen-angel on the other hand controls humans to eliminate devils. And here the angels come to destroy the two races on God's order. So the war is split into three groups: devils, fallen angels and angels. This has been going on since ancient times."

"Umm senpai. That kind of story is hard to take in by a normal male student like myself. Huh? Is this what members of occult research club do?"

So this conversation has been the club activity then.

"Occult research club is just a camouflage. It's my hobby. We are all devils."

Umm...No, no. You are still talking about the club activity then.

"Amano Yuuma..."

When I heard that name I realized that this wasn't any joke. Where did she hear that from?

"That day, you were on a date with Amano Yuuma, right?"

"If you are joking, then can you please stop now..... I don't want to talk about it in this atmosphere."

There was anger in my tone. That's because that topic is like a taboo to me now. When I talked about it before no one believed me, and no one remembered her. Everyone said it was a dream. That it was my hallucination. Nobody believed me and no one remembered about her existence. I don't know where she heard the story from, but I won't take it if she says that it is all occult. Instead I would be mad.

"She existed. For certain."

Rias-senpai says that clearly.

"Though it looks like she tried to erase all of the evidence around you."

Rias-senpai swirled her finger, and Himejima-senpai took out a photo from her pocket.

“This is her, right? Amano Yuuma-chan.”

She’s right. The person in the photo was my girlfriend who I couldn’t find anywhere. I took a picture of her before with my mobile phone but it was somehow gone. The photo had a clear picture of her, and there were black wings growing from her back.

“This girl is....no, this is a fallen-angel. It’s the same kind as the one which attacked you last night.”

A fallen angel? Yuuma-chan is a fallen angel? Rias-senpai continued talking.

“This fallen-angel came in contact with you to accomplish her motive. After she accomplished it she got rid of any record and evidence regarding herself.”

“Motive?”

“Yes. To kill you.”

Wha, What the hell!!

“What did she have to kill me for!?”

“Calm down, Ise. It couldn’t be helped.....No, you were just unlucky. There are possessors who aren’t killed.”

“What do you mean unlucky!”

Is she saying that I was just unlucky to be killed by Yuuma-chan that day!? Huh....? Killed....? But I’m still alive? I’m still here like before.

“That day you were on a date with her and then went to the park, where you were killed by the Spear of Light.”

“But I’m still alive! Why did I have to get hunted for?”

Yeah, that’s right. There aren’t any reasons for me to get hunted by her. Why do I have to get hunted by fallen-angels!?

“The reason why your life was aimed by her is so she could check if there is a dangerous thing inside you. Since the response was weak, she had to take her time checking you. Then she confirmed it. That you were a human who possessed the Sacred Gear.”

Sacred Gear.... I was familiar with that term.

- Sorry. You were a threat to us so we decided to get rid of you early. If you want to hold a grudge, then hate the God who put the Sacred Gear inside you.-

That's what Yuuma-chan said that time. There's a Sacred Gear inside my body? Kiba opened his mouth.

"Sacred Gear is an irregular power which is bestowed to certain humans. For example most of the people whose name is recorded in the history are said to be possessors of Sacred Gears. They used the power of their Sacred Gear to record their name in the history."

"Presently there are people who have Sacred Gear within their body. You know those people who play an important role worldwide? Most of those people possess Sacred Gear within their body."

Himejima-senpai continues from where Kiba stopped at. Rias-senpai then continues the discussion.

"Most of the Sacred Gears have functions that are only usable in the human society. But there are exceptional Sacred Gears which are a threat to the devils and fallen angels. Ise, raise your hand high."

Huh? I have to raise my hand? Why?

"Do it quickly."

Rias-senpai is urging me to do it. So I held my left arm upwards.

"Close your eyes and imagine the thing which you think is the strongest."

"Strongest being? Ummm, Son Goku from Dragon Ball?"

"Then imagine that person. Now imagine him in a particular pose where he looks the strongest."

"....."

I imagined Goku when he is shooting his Kamehameha. Is this alright?

"Lower your arm slowly, and stand up."

I got up from the sofa.

"Now mimic the pose of that person. You have to copy it properly, and you cannot hold back."

Oh crap. There are people around me, and I have to copy Goku doing Kamehameha at this age!?
Crap, I'm too embarrassed to do it! Just because I'm closing my eyes, it doesn't mean that no one will laugh at me.

"Hurry and do it."

Rias-senpai urges me again. Heyyyy! Are you serious! Do I seriously have to do it!? Shit! Then look! It's Hyoudou Issei's first and last time doing Kamehameha!

I put both my opened hands together and pushed it in front of my chest. Then I finished the pose by yelling out Kamehameha.

“Kamehameha!”

“Now open your eyes. Since this place is filled with magic powers, the Sacred Gear will appear more easily.”

I opened my eyes just like Rias-senpai said. Flash. My left arm starts to glow! Whaaaat!! What is this!? What the hell is this!? Can I pull off Kamehameha now!? The light started to form a shape and covered my left arm. When the light stopped glowing, my left arm is covered in a red gauntlet. It is equipped with a flashy looking object. If you look at it, it looked like a very fine and realistic cosplay item. The part which covers the back of my hand, there is a gem engraved in it. Actually it looks like a jewel instead of a gem.

“WTF!!!!!!!!!!!!!!”

I was so shocked that I shouted out loud. Obviously! I thought I did a Kamehameha, and instead I have an item that super heroes used on my arm! Man, what is this!?

“That's a Sacred Gear, and that is yours. Once it appears, you could use it anywhere and anytime as you will.”

Huh..... This is a Sacred Gear....? Ummmm..... I still can't believe it. I shot a Kamehameha and I.....I.....

“You were killed because your Sacred Gear was a big threat to the fallen angel, Amano Yuuma.”

So the thing about Yuuma-chan and the Sacred Gear are all real.....? So the thing about me getting killed by her is real too.....? So how am I alive?

“You called me when you were on the verge of death. I was summoned by this poster.”

Rias-senpai pulled out a single leaflet. I was familiar with that leaflet. When I was waiting for Yuuma-chan at the meeting spot, one of the people giving out a leaflet gave one to me. It was a leaflet with a weird magic circle and a catchphrase which read, “We will grant your wish!” If I look carefully, the magic circle on the leaflet is the same as the big magic circle on the floor.

“This leaflet is the one we gave out. This magic circle is used to summon us, devils. Lately, not many people draw this circle to summon us. So we give this leaflet to people who look like they would summon devils. This magic circle is safe and easy to use. That day, one of our familiars which was disguised as a human was handing this out at the business district. You got it at that time, Ise. After you were attacked by the fallen angel, you called me while you were on the verge

of death. You wished so hard that it summoned me. Usually Akeno and others are the ones who are summoned.”

That time I was impaled by the spear of light, and I wished hard..... When my hand was covered in blood, the thing which came into my head was “crimson”. I craved for the girl with crimson hair, Rias Gremory. So then that dream.....No.....that incident where the person with crimson hair appeared at the end was senpai.

“When I was summoned and saw you, I knew right away that you were attacked by a fallen angel and that you were the possessor of the Sacred Gear. But there was a problem, and that was that you were just a moment from death. Not just devils, but also humans would be killed instantly if impaled by the Spear of Light. You were also in a state like that, so I decided to save your life.”

Save my life? So senpai was the one who saved me? So that’s why I am alive.

“I saved your life as a devil. Ise, you who were reborn as a devil of mine, Rias Gremory, are my servant and devil.”

Pan! That moment wings grew out of everyone besides me. It looked different from the wings of the fallen angel. It looked like a wing of a bat. Are you serious..... I’m a devil now, and I’m not a human anymore?

“I will introduce us again. Yuuto.” Kiba smiled at me after senpai called his name.

“My name is Kiba Yuuto. I’m also in the 2nd year like you know, Hyoudou Issei-kun. I’m also a devil, nice to meet you.”

“1st year..... Toujou Koneko.....Nice to meet you.....and I’m a devil.....” Toujou Koneko-chan bows her head.

“My name is Himejima Akeno, and I’m in 3rd year. I’m also the vice-president of this research club. Nice to meet you. Even though I’m like this, I’m also a devil. Oh my.”

Himejima-senpai bows her head very politely. Lastly, it was Rias-senpai’s turn. She waves her crimson hair and says it very directly.

“And I’m their master, and my name is Rias Gremory of the house of Gremory. My house holds the rank of a duke. Let’s get along from now on.”

Looks like I’m in an unthinkable situation.

Life 2: Start of a Devil

“Haaaaaaaaa!”

It’s midnight and I was on full throttle pedaling my bicycle. The reason is simple. I was giving out leaflets, which has an easy to use magic circle on it.

Humans with lots of greed would take it in their hands to wish what they want. Then we, the devils, are summoned in front of them. I looked at the portable machine in my hand where it displayed the map of the current area I was in.

There were red points which kept on flashing. I was pedaling my bicycle heading to that area. I arrived at the point and it was someone's house.

I put the leaflet in the mailbox and then I moved onto the other red points nearby. I kept on repeating this procedure, again and again.

“Fuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuuck! This can’t be helped! Since I’m a devil! This can’t be helped!”

I screamed out aloud while pedaling my bicycle.

*

I will have to go back to *that* day, when I found out I was a devil to explain my current situation. *That* day, I also found out that I was a Sacred Gear Possessor. *That* day I found out that Yuuma-chan was a fallen-angel. And *that* day I found out that Rias-senpai was a devil.

By the way, my devil-wings disappeared again, soon after that. It was something which would become a hindrance to my lifestyle. Apparently, the wings could be used to fly if I get used to it. The feeling of having wings is really gross....but the feeling of moving my wings was astonishing.

“If you are with me, your lifestyle and future will become very bright.”

Rias-senpai said that to me with a wink while I was looking down after I learned that I was a devil. Apparently, I was turned into her servant after she reincarnated me as a devil, and I have to live like that from now on.

Humans who were reincarnated into a devil have to become the servant of the devil who reincarnated them. Well, that’s the rule of the devils. What....me? A servant...? It might not be that bad to become the servant of a beauty but still, I can’t come to agree with it.

“To tell you the truth, there are ranks between devils. Something called peerage. I also have one. The place where you were born and the family you were born from plays a big role in it, but there are devils who rise up. Everyone starts off as a novice first.”

“Can you please stop talking like it's a recruiting commercial!? But are you serious? I still can't believe it.”

Senpai started to whisper into my ears while I was complaining. Man, her hair smells so nice. Feels like my brain will freeze. Oh, is this magic?

“By the way, you may be able to start a life where you can become popular with girls.”

...! The thing she just said went to my mind.

“How!?”

The word came out of my mouth before I tried to think about it.

Looks like my perverted thoughts are something remarkable since that's the only thing I think about.

Wait, this may be the work of the magic senpai cast onto me. My tension is pretty higher than usual.

“Majority of the pure devils were killed in the war a long time ago. Because of that, we, the devils started to make lots of servants. Well, we lost a lot of power so we can't make a huge army compared to the past. Even so, we need to keep on increasing the number of the devils. Just like humans, the devils split in genders of male and female and are able to give birth. But even with normal birth, it will take a lot of time to get back to the same population as before. Devils also have a very low birth rate, so we won't be able to stand up against the fallen-angels. So we find humans who have good quality and make them into devils. As our servant, that is.”

“So, I'm a servant after all.”

“Oh, don't make a face like that. Now, I will get to the point. Since this only increases the number of servants, it doesn't increase the number of powerful devils. So the devils added a new rule. Chances or opportunities were given to powerful reincarnated devils, in other words devils that were reincarnated from humans. Reincarnated ones are given peerage as well if they are powerful. Because of that there are lots of devils in human's society. There are also devils like myself who came to human's society as well. Ise, you may not have noticed but you probably passed devils a couple of times while walking.”

“Huh, devils were always nearby then!?”

“Yes, though there are people who can distinguish which ones are devils and those who can't. People with a strong greed or people who want to get help from devils usually can distinguish us strongly. We are usually summoned by the one who can distinguish between them by the leaflet with magic circle that we give out. There are people like you Ise, who can distinguish devils but don't believe in our existence. Though majority of them usually believe it if they see magic powers.”

What!? So the reason I summoned senpai was because I had a strong greed! So looks like there is change in the devil's society as well. It must be a difficult thing, but that doesn't matter now. The important thing is that there is also a chance for me as well!

“So that means with the right method I would also be able to get a peerage!?”

“Yes. It's not impossible. Of course, it would take a lot of time and effort to achieve though.”

“Hell yeaaaaaaaaaaaaaaah!!”

I was shouting in the classroom.

“Are you serious! I'm able to make my own harem!? I could have sex with them as well, right!?”

“Yes. I think it's fine if it's with your servants.”

I felt a shock going through my body. Absurd! Something like that is actually possible!?

In the real world and also as a human, it is really hard to build your own harem.

If I was still an ordinary human, no matter what I'd do, I won't be able to get a batch of girls since right now I'm in a bad position.

I don't even have a single girlfriend. Well I did, but I was killed by my ex. But now! Now I can...!

“Oooohhhh yeaaah!! Being a devil rocks! Hell yeah! I can't calm myself anymore! I can probably throw away my porn.....!”

I stopped what I was about to say, and then started thinking about the decision I was about to make.

“No. Not the porno magazine. Not that. I can't throw that away. That's my treasure. I could still use that until my mum finds it! This and that is a different issue. Yes. It's a different issue!”

“Fufufu. This boy is really funny.”

Rias-senpai is laughing as if she finds me amusing.

“Oh my. It's just like you said earlier, he makes me feel like I have a very stupid brother.”

Even Himejima-senpai is laughing. Hahaha, she is kind of saying bad things about me...

“Anyway Ise. You are alright with being my servant, right? If you have potential, you will stand out. And then, you will be able to receive a peerage.”

“Yes, Rias-senpai!”

“No that’s not it. You will have to call me ‘Buchou’.”

“Buchou? Can’t I call you onee-sama?”

I got cocky and asked her. I always wanted an onee-sama. It’s not even a yuri-situation, but all of the guys have a desire to call a beauty an ‘onee-sama’.

Rias-senpai thought about it seriously, and then shook her head.

“Hmmmmmm. That sounds wonderful, but since I operate mainly in the school, being called ‘buchou’ sounds more fitting.”

“Okay! Then Buchou! Teach me how to be a devil!”

Buchou was smiling as if she was really happy, after hearing me.

“Good reply. Good boy, Ise. Okay, I will change you into a man.”

Buchou starts to touch my chin with her fingers. Onee-sama! It’s my onee-sama! I will be awakened as a devil under her from now!

No. I will rise up! That’s okay I guess. Since I can’t revert back to a human anymore, I will just walk straight ahead! I’ve already accepted the situation I am in.

It might sound stupid, but it’s okay I guess. It’s more like my ambition was full of perverted stuff. That’s also the reason why my tension was high.

I’m relieved that I’m a guy who works for his ambition toward sex! Rather than thinking about my future, I will just have fun now!

“I’m going to become a Harem-King!”

If I think calmly, I may have been tricked into this situation by Buchou’s magic. Well that’s okay I guess, since we are talking about harem here.

It would be really awesome if I could make my own harem. With this, I became a member of the occult research club.

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A few days after I started my life as a devil.....

I was just peddling my bicycle like crazy. Since that day I've become Rias-buchou's servant and I have been sweating a lot every day.

First, we gather at the old school building at night. This is because we devils become stronger at night.

The unknown phenomenon which occurred to me was the power of a devil. Since we are devils, our power increases drastically because of the power of the darkness at night.

Similarly, I became weaker in the morning. Devils fear light. The stronger the power of the light is, the more lethal it becomes to our bodies. Light is a poison. That's what I was told by Buchou. The beings which uses light as weapons, the fallen angels, and the Angels are our greatest foes.

I was told to run away if I ever encounter them. Apparently if you get used to it, then the morning won't be a problem anymore. The reason why I was weak at morning was because I was just resurrected as a devil and my body couldn't stand morning light. The thing is that I will get used to it after a while.

The reason why I was left alone when I was resurrected as a devil was because she wanted me to know the changes that are happening to my body. She was planning to tell me the truth and was waiting for the right time. That was the day when I was attacked by the guy wearing the suit, and it felt like destiny.

Anyway I was working hard as Rias Gremory's personal servant. Since I just became a devil, I was told to study about the devil's society and how it works. For practice I was ordered to give out these leaflets. I thought my parents would get worried if I was gone every night.

But Buchou said that, "I did something the day I met your parents so it's alright now." with a smile. Even when I come back home late, my parents don't get angry at all. They just say "Welcome home."

Hmmmm, Buchou's magic is amazing. What's more amazing is the control Buchou has in the academy. Since the academy is inside Buchou's territory, she is the shadow ruler of our academy. The person in the highest position in our academy has ties with the devils and therefore can't oppose the people from the House of Gremory.

In other words the academy is basically Buchou's personal belonging. Thanks to that, we are able to enter the school at night.

*

And now back to the current work.

Every day I go around on my bicycle, giving out leaflets in people's mailboxes with a special device. The device I'm holding is a secret machine developed by the science of the devil's world. It looks like those new generation portable game devices with touch screens.

There's a screen, buttons and a touch pen. I was using it the way I was told to. The monitor shows the map of the town I live in, in other words Buchou's territory. Each devil is given a certain territory in the human world and it is also the only area where they are allowed to do their job.

The job goes like this:

First we are summoned, and then we make a contract with them.

After that, we fulfill their wishes.

As a price, we receive an award fitting for the particular wish they made.

It can be money, an object, and even their life.

Well lately, there aren't any contractors who would use their life to make a wish. Even if there was a person like that, if the price they gave doesn't match up to the wish they wish for, then the wish won't be granted. According to Buchou, "People's values aren't equal".

Yes, it's harsh. And the light flashing on the monitor shows the houses where people with a lot of greed live. So I go to these areas to hand out the magic circle leaflet. As long as there are lights flashing on the monitor, my work isn't finished.

Because I turned into a devil, other people and even the police don't pay attention to me. Since I am already active as a devil, humans don't realize my presence when I'm working. I have been pedaling my bicycle everyday but it seems like the light doesn't stop flashing in the monitor.

That means humans are beings that have that much greed. Once you make a wish it apparently becomes an addiction to keep on wishing for other ones. The contract is only limited to occur at night. That's because devils are only allowed to work at night. The daytime is a time for the angels and God. That is the part which I still don't understand.

The leaflets can only be used once, and if they're used then I would have to hand it out again. In other words, my work will last forever. Well thanks to that, Buchou and the others can continue to do their job and the points for being a devil are increasing. If we keep on making a contract and granting their wish, we get credited by the King of Devils. So that's how it goes.

If I continue working like this, I will receive a peerage from the King! It's better to keep on doing a big job. I want it! I also want to make a contract!

"Oooooooh yeaah! I want to be surrounded by girls!"

But right now I have to be patient and keep on doing the task I am given. But how long do I have to continue this.....

On a certain day after school.

I went towards the old school building after splitting apart from my two mates. To begin with, my job of handing out the leaflets was originally a job assigned to Buchou's familiar. Senpai changed the forms of the mouse and bat that she owns to the form of a human. After their forms change, they start giving out the leaflet like I did.

They do it both at daytime and night. The reason why I was assigned to do it was because Buchou wanted me to know what kind of job devils have to do from the beginning. Even Kiba and the others did the same at first. Kiba, Toujou Koneko-chan, Himejima-senpai are all devil servants of Rias-buchou. They all are my senpais.

They all have experienced the work of handing out leaflets. Talk about people's history... Wait not people, but devils. It may not be important but I got a confirmation from Toujou Koneko-chan and Himejima-senpai to call them "Koneko-chan" and "Akeno-san" respectively. Looks like I got one step closer to getting along with them.

Fufufu, I called them by their name in front of Matsuda and Motohama on purpose. The expressions on their faces were the best. I haven't told Motohama and Matsuda about me. Even if I did, they wouldn't have believed me. Also I would be putting them in a dangerous situation as well. I already died once and I can't let them face the same fate as me.

And Kiba is Kiba. Die, you Casanova! I will never call you Kiba-kun! And then I was called to the club room.

I went inside the old building which I'm getting familiar with and headed to the room on the second floor.

"I'm entering."

Everyone was already there. Oh, am I the last one? The room is dark and the window is covered to block the light from entering. The only light in the room is from the candles spread variously on the floor.

"You are here."

Soon as Buchou confirms that I'm here she gives an order to Akeno-san.

"Yes Buchou. Ise-kun please sit here in the middle of the magic circle."

Akeno-san is waving her hand. Bishoujo is waving her hand! Thank you very much! That alone is a reward for me. I went to the middle of the circle. So what now?

"Ise, your work of giving out leaflets is finished now. Well done."

Buchou is smiling. Is that so? Now I'm done with handing out leaflets.

“Now you can start your job as a devil professionally.”

“Oh! Now I can make contracts!?”

“Yes, that’s right. Though, since it’s your first time it’s going to be a contract with someone with a small wish. Koneko received two contracts beforehand. Since it’s hard to do both, I will leave one to you.”

“Please help me.....”

Koneko-chan bows her head. So I’m going on behalf of Koneko-chan. That’s okay, since I was getting tired of handing out the leaflets. Unexpectedly peddling a bicycle every night and handing out the leaflets made me lonely. The other members are outside the circle. Akeno-san who is inside the circle is apparently casting something. Then the magic circle starts emitting blue and white lights.

“Ummm.....”

“Keep quiet Ise. Akeno is inserting your carved seal into the magic circle.”

My carved seal? The magic circle inside this room is also the sign of the House of Gremory. I was told that for us, servants of Buchou, it is like a family crest. So for people who are trying to summon us, and for people who want to make a contract with us, this sign represents our symbol. When the magic power is used it is coordinated with this magic circle. Kiba and the others have these signs on their bodies and it operates whenever they use their powers. Well that’s how I was informed. I thought about getting engraved with the same signs. But first, those who just turned into a devil needs to learn how to control their magic powers. Using magic coordinated with magic circles come after that. Well that’s what I thought.

“Ise, put your palms towards here.”

I put my left hand towards Buchou, just like she said. Buchou started to write something on my palm with her fingers. Is she writing a charm? It feels like she is drawing something like a circle..... Instantly my palm started to glow. There was a circular symbol, a magic circle engraved in my hand. It’s glowing in blue and white. Wow a magic circle!

“This magic seal is used for transportation and it can transport you to the client's place instantly. And when the contract is finished it lets you return to this room.”

Oh, I get it now. So it has that kind of ability.

“Akeno, are you ready?”

“Yes, Buchou.”

Akeno-san steps out of the magic circle.

“Now stand in the middle of it.”

I stood in the middle point of the magic circle like I was urged to. Then the magic circle started to glow in a blue color strongly. I can kind of feel a power. I can feel powers coming within my body when I’m touching the magic circle. So is this the trait for the servants?

“The magic circle is responding with the client. Now you are going to be transported to that location. You already have the manual for what to do after getting transported right?”

“Yes!”

“Good response. Now get going!”

I’m tensed up! My first job! I’m definitely going to accomplish it safely! The magic circle starts to glow even stronger. It looks like I’m getting transported there instantly. Lots of light are covering my body. I closed my eyes because of the brightness. The next time I open my eyes it will be at the client’s place! Man, I’m pumped! And then....I.....instantly.....transported.....

.....

.....

Hmmmm.....hmmmm? Huh? Have I transported? Is it done? I opened my eyes.

.....

I lost my words when I saw my surroundings. It’s the club room. Huh? What about the instant transport? The client? When I looked, Buchou seemed troubled and was putting her hand on her forehead. Akeno-san was saying “Oh my, Oh my”, with a disappointed face. The bastard Kiba was making a sigh. I’m getting pissed. What happened to me? Buchou calls my name.

“Ise.”

“Yes.”

“Unfortunately, you can’t use the magic circle to get transported to the client's location.”

Huh? What does that mean? Senpai explains to me while I had a puzzled expression.

“Magic circle requires an amount of magic powers..... It doesn’t require that much magic power. No it’s a feat which could be done by any devil, even children. Transportation by the magic circle is the first and the easiest step of being a devil.”

Ummmm, so what does that mean?

“In other words Ise, your magic powers are below that of children. No, it’s so low that the magic circle can’t respond with it. Ise, your magic is incredibly low.”

Wha...Whaaaaaat!

“What the fuck is that!”

I was speechless. Whaaaaat! So that means that I can’t use the magic circle to transport to the client’s location!? I’m a devil? I’m a devil right?

“Unsightly.....”

Koneko-chan says it expressionlessly. That was a severe hit Koneko-chan.

“Oh my, oh my. We are in trouble. What should we do Buchou?”

Akeno-san also had a troubled face and asked Buchou. Wow! My debut as a devil starts from a rough start..... Then Buchou started to think for awhile, and then said it clearly.

“Since there is a client, we can’t let him wait. Ise.”

“Yes!”

“It’s never happened before, but you will have to go there on your own feet.”

“By myself!?”

I was shocked! I wasn’t predicting that Buchou-sama!

“Yes. Just like how you handed out the leaflet, you will have to go to his residence. It can’t be helped since you don’t have any magic powers. You will have to make up for that part with your own body.”

“On a bicycle!? I will have to go to the client's place on a bicycle!? Are there even devils like that!?”

Point! Koneko-chan pointed at me silently. Koneko-chan, you sure like to make me miserable, huh.....

“Hurry and get going! It’s a devil's job to make a contract! You can’t make humans wait!”

Buchou urges me with a serious face. Sob..... My goal for getting a peerage starts from a bumpy road!

“Uwaaaah! I will do my best!”

I left the club room while crying.

It's midnight and I was peddling my bicycle at maximum speed.

My eyes were covered with tears. I cried. Yes I was crying. A devil who doesn't get summoned by a magic circle. That's me. Apparently it's the first case ever. Thanks to that I couldn't stop crying. What does it mean that I don't have magic powers! Dammit! Will I actually be able to get a peerage at this rate!? With the devil's portable device, I was peddling my bicycle towards the person who called me. It's an apartment located 20 minutes away from the school. The client is in one of those rooms. If it's a delivery service, customers would get mad because of the late time. It's usually instant teleportation, but I made the client wait for 20 minutes.

I knocked on the door.

"Good afternoon! I'm an errand from the devil Gremory-sama! Excuse me but this is the house that made a summon right?"

This should be alright. Devils can only be sensed by those who summoned them. Even if I do something like this in the middle of the night, the neighbors won't know what is going on. That's why only the client can hear what I just said. During the time when a devil is doing his job, a special magic takes place. It is used so it doesn't cause any trouble to other people. That was how Buchou explained it to me.

"Who's there!?"

The voice sounded like a man with a panicked voice.

"Ummm, I'm a devil. I'm a newbie and I came here because I was called by you."

"Don't lie! There isn't any devil that knocks on doors! Devils come out from this leaflet! That's how it was for the past summoning! And the one I called for is Koneko-chan!"

Yeah he's right. I will apologize for that. I'm sorry. It was an unexpected incident for me and the others.

"Oh sorry. I don't have much magic powers so I can't appear from the magic circle."

"You might be just a hentai!"

I got pissed off as soon as he said that.

"I'm not a hentai! And how should I know! If I could, I also wanted to appear by the magic circle! What kind of loner would peddle their bicycle through the town in the middle of the night!"

“Why are you the one getting pissed, you big hentai!”

“Big hentai!? Fuck you! I’m telling you that I’m a devil!”

“Go home!”

The client opened his door to make a claim. He was a skinny person and he looked unhealthy. He looked angry but as soon as he looked at my face, his expression softened.

“Are you crying....?”

“Huh? Me?”

When I touched my cheek there were tears on my hand. I was crying.

“Is that so? So you were crying because you were shocked to find out that you can’t use the teleportation...”

“Looks like it.”

I was allowed to come into his room. He even made tea for me. The incident about the teleportation and the argument earlier had crushed my heart more than I expected and unconsciously I was crying. Of course I would cry. The client, Morizawa-san, saw me and became empathic towards me and let me inside his room. His room looked clean. It was a tidy room for a single guy like him to live in. He told me that he works for the government during the day. Morizawa-san does his job seriously but he was craving to get in touch with other people. After he got one of the leaflets we handed out, he decided to summon a devil.

“So it’s not Koneko-chan.....”

He had fallen in love with Koneko-chan at first sight and she was the first devil he made a contract with. Since then he has been summoning her.

“I’m sorry, but apparently she’s popular with other clients as well. She represents the cuteness category of devils.”

I was explained that when you summon a devil, you can wish for which devil to summon by calling out that devil’s name. And today he decided to call Koneko-chan, which resulted in a clash with another client. If the regular devil can’t be called, another devil will have to take that devil’s place.

“I wished for a devil from the cuteness category when I used the leaflet....”

“I’m a cute newbie, so can you be okay with that?”

“Hahahaha! You talk of something impossible! If I had a silver sword with me, I would have stabbed you! Hahahaha!”

Bro, you are laughing but your eyes aren't.

“By the way, what were you going to wish for when you tried to summon Koneko-chan?”

That was my question. Maybe I could also grant that wish of his. But that was shattered when Morizawa-san took out a certain thing from the corner of his room.

“I wanted her to wear this.”

Which girl's school uniform is that from? I think I saw it somewhere before.

“It's the uniform of Nagato Yuki”

“Nagato....Oh! From Suzumiya Haruhi!”

Even I know it. Suzumiya Haruhi series.

“Devil-kun, do you also like Nagato?”

“No, I'm more of an Asakura Ryouko fan.”

“For what reason?”

“Her breasts.”

“-GASP-“

Morizawa-san lost his word when he heard me replying without a second thought. Asakura Ryouko, a regular character from Suzumiya Haruhi series, and a bishoujo with a glamorous body.

“So you are a big breasts lover?”

“Yes. Breasts are packed with dreams. That I am very sure of.”

I imagined Buchou's naked breasts bouncing. Buchou, I've fallen in love with your breasts at first sight. I was too embarrassed to say it in front of you, but I will definitely protect your breasts, Buchou. Morizawa-san made a lecherous expression while smirking.

“You have good eyes. Seems like you have an extremely high passion towards breasts. Looks like you have an opposite fetish as me. I like small breasted girls.”

“I can understand. I have a friend with the same taste.”

The person that appeared in my head was Motohama. He is a genuine hentai, that I am very sure of.

“Yes. She, Koneko-chan, looks similar to Nagato, right? Her atmosphere, though her height is small.”

If you talk about it, she has a small body and she shows no expression at all. A body with no curves and her hair is short. They do seem similar. Nagato Yuki also has similar characteristics.

“That’s why I wanted her to wear this. I really wanted her to wear it!”

There were tears flowing out of his eyes. Tears of regret. He sure is regretting it. He really wanted her to wear it, huh?

“I’m sorry about it. Okay then. Let me wear it.”

“I’ll fucking kill you, bastard!”

Morizawa-san turned down my kind offer while shouting. Please don’t get mad while crying out that much. It was a joke. I was just joking. Morizawa-san tried to calm down after whipping off his tears. He took a deep breath and calmed down.

“It’s okay then. So what are you good at? Since you are also a devil you should have some mysterious power right. Just to tell you, Koneko-chan has extreme strength. She even lifted me.”

He says it with pride. Where did your pride as a man gone off to? So there are people who get all high by getting lifted up by a girl. So my special trait? Hmmmmm? I put my arms around each other and said it seriously.

“I can shoot a dragon-ha, aka kamehameha.”

“Go kill yourself.”

“What! What’s with that response! It also seemed like you actually meant it!”

“Of course I mean it! How could there be a devil that can use kamehameha!”

“Here! I can! Me!”

I pointed at myself and said it clearly.

“Then do it!”

“I will then!”

“If you can shoot it, then shoot! Don’t look down on us, the generation who grew up with Dragon Ball! When we were in primary school, all of us practiced to use kamehameha after school every Monday. We even tried to collect spirits so we could use the spirit bombs, though nothing happened! Don’t look down on our generation!”

“Shut up! So who cares if you were raised while watching Dragon Ball! I bought all of the manga! I even bought the new release manga as well, which is the first edition one! Me and my mates also played “Hide and seek” by trying to sense each other’s ki!”

I responded to all of his argument. I was pissed! Really pissed! Then I’ll show you! Hyoudou Issei’s version of Dragon-ha(kamehame-ha)! I activated my Sacred Gear! First I closed my eyes and put my left arm upwards. I imagined Son Goku in my head and put my arm down. I then made a pose of doing a Dragon-ha(kamehame-ha). I put all my energy in it! Dammit it! Take this you Dragon Ball generation! This is my ultimate attack!

“Kamehame-ha(Dragon-ha)!”

Flash! Instantly my left arm glowed! The red gauntlet appeared covering my left arm. Take a look! This is my Sacred Gear! I then looked at Morizawa-san and he was.....crying. He then grabbed volume 1 of Dragon Ball from his bookshelf. He grabbed my hand and we exchanged a passionate handshake.

“Let’s talk about it!”

That was enough to understand what he was trying to say. Any Dragon Ball fan would understand what he wanted to say.

“Yes, let’s talk about it!”

So the long night started.

“Hahaha. Me too. I think the voice for Dende was fitting as well.”

“Yeah. It sounded just like how I imagined it to be.”

After he brought his manga, we’ve been laughing and talking for the past 2 hours. As we talked, we forgot the age gap between us and had already become friends. Fufufufu. I had a bad first impression, but when we started talking we got to know each other even more.

“Okay! Maybe I should make a contract with you as well?”

“Yeah boss! Thank you for the contract!”

Yes! Yes! Yes! Yes! I've gotten my first contract! My road to get a peerage has started! My legend starts from here!

“Okay it might be a standard wish, but can I wish to become rich?”

Indeed, that's a normal and standard wish people would make.

“Okay. I'll check.”

I got out the portable devil device and I input his wish in. Then the answer appeared.

“Ummmm. In your case, for you to fulfill that wish your price would be your life. In others words you would die.”

“Die!?”

“Yes. I'm sorry but in the devils world, they say that life isn't equal. So for you to wish for becoming rich Morikawa-san, you would have to die.”

“It feels like I just got my heart ripped out. But that's okay. Anyway if I make that wish when will I die?”

“Ummmm. You will die as soon as the money starts dropping from the sky. Looks like you can't even touch it. This is awful.”

“Guwah!! So I can't smack the money onto your face then!?”

“Hey don't try to hit me with it.”

Hmmmm. I just witnessed someone's dream getting shattered. But just as I thought, for Morikawa-san making a wish like that is basically near impossible in his usual life. So this is what Buchou means that people's value isn't equal. What an unfair world we live in.

“So, so.....how about a harem? How about wishing for lots of girls in a sumptuous feast!?”

Oh! So you will go there, then? I was deeply moved. He's a guy after all so of course he would wish for something like that.

“Morikawa-san, I also love harems! It's every man's dream! Amazing! One day I would want to go drink with you, even though I'm a minor!”

“I don't care about that. So how is it?”

I input his wish in the device. Oh my, that's a harsh answer.

“Well it says that you would die as soon as the babes come into your sight.”

“Wait, so I’m going to die as soon as I see their faces!?”

“No, it says as soon as they come into your sight. Man that’s harsh, you can’t even tell how they would look like. Isn’t it better to walk past the babes in the city?”

“Hwaaaaah!!”

Suddenly an adult, Morikawa-san, started to cry.

“So my life doesn’t have that much value....!? I’m sorry for being born.....”

I patted softly on Morikawa-san’s shoulder.

“Let’s continue talking about Dragon Ball. You want to role-play Dragon Ball? I will be Goku and you could be Freeza. Is that okay?”

Morikawa-san nods his head while crying. Like this my first contract didn’t happen because I had to take care of my client.

Next day, after school.

“.....”

Buchou was mad. Her eyebrow was lifted upwards and she didn’t say a single word. I was standing in front of her and my face was pale. Yesterday I was playing Dragon Ball with a client and finished the night with it. Oh yeah Kiba said something like “This kind of case has never happened before” and he couldn’t stop himself laughing.

“Ise.....”

The tone of her voice was deep and serious and she sounded mad.

“Yes!”

“You talked with the client about manga and what happened after that? What about the contract?”

She came straight to the point. I have sweats coming out of me.

“I couldn’t make a contract..... We role-played a certain manga till morning!”

“Role-play?”

“Ye..yes! We played a certain character from that manga and acted as if we were fighting.”

Why am I explaining something like this seriously? I feel like crying.

“I know that as a high school boy, no as a professional devil I should be embarrassed! I’m regretting it! I’m very sorry!”

I bow down my head after apologizing. Seriously, what was I doing playing Dragon Ball till morning?

“After the contract we ask the client to fill in the questionnaire.... We ask the client about their feedback about the contract they just made. The questionnaire is written in the leaflet and their feedback shows up in this paper here.....”

Buchou showed me the paper with feedback for the questionnaire. I never knew there was a questionnaire? Looks like devils are really serious about their job.

[It was fun. It was my first time having a good time like this. I would like to meet with Ise-kun again. I would like to make a good contract with him next time.]

“This is the reply from the client.....”

I was moved. Morizawa-san....I couldn’t do anything.....but you.....

“This is the first time I received a feedback like this. I wasn’t sure what to do first, that’s why I was quiet and had a weird expression.”

Buchou wasn’t mad? But it’s true that I couldn’t make a contract...

“To devils, what’s important is that we make a proper contract with humans who summoned us. Then we get our reward. That’s how devils have lived since a long time ago. This is the first time I encountered an incident like this.... As a devil you failed, but the client was happy with you.”

Buchou looked puzzled but her expression changed to a smile,

“But it’s interesting. You might become the number 1 for unexpected things. But remember to do the basics. You make a contract with them and grant their wish. Then you receive the reward. Okay?”

“Yes, I’ll do my best!”

Buchou forgave my actions. Because of it I was so happy. Buchou, next time I’ll definitely do it!

The same day when I vowed to do my best.

Again my job was about to start. It was midnight and I was on full throttle peddling my bicycle towards the client’s house. This time I’m heading towards a mansion which is 30 minutes away

from the school. Even though I was going at full speed, it took me 30 minutes to reach it. I hope the client isn't pissed? I stood in front of the door and rang the bell. It's sad that there is a devil like me who needs to ring the door bell. I really want to get summoned by the magic circle. Then there was a small reply from the inter-phone.

"It's opened-nyou. Come in-nyou."

It was really a thick voice. Is it a guy? Huh? Nyou? Did he just say nyou? No it must be my ears. I opened the door and took off my shoes at the entrance. I then went inside the room with uneasiness. When I opened the door I lost all words.

"Welcome-nyou."

It was a humongous body, and it had an unrivaled presence. It was an enormous guy with incredible muscles wearing a gothic-lolita outfit. If I looked carefully the buttons on the outfit looked like they were about to fall off and some places looked like they were about to get ripped. Also his eyes were that of a pure baby even though it felt like I was about to get killed. No, the most unusual thing was his head. He had cat-ears. I drank down my spit and could feel a drop of sweat falling down my cheek. My hands were shaking because I was getting nervous. This isn't a guy. He is a guy of guys. I felt like I was standing on my graveyard because of his intense pressure.

"Umm.....ummmmm. Did you.....summon the devil.....from the Gremory's.....?"

I asked just in case. Flash! The guy's eye started to blink along with the sound of his eyes flashing. It felt like there was an intense fight between us. I'm gonna get killed! Someone help me! Even though I'm a devil, I changed my posture to battle him.

"Yes-nyou. I call you devil-san because there's a wish I want -nyou."

Unexpected words came out from his thick mouth. His sentences were always finished by -nyou! Impossible! Is he allowed to do that?

"Mil-tan wants to become a magical girl -nyou."

"You should go to another dimension then."

I replied to his wish quickly. It's impossible. Seriously, that's impossible. My head was getting confused because of the wish he wanted to be granted. Mil-tan! What the heck is Mil-tan!? This guy's words are confusing me! With that body you could go to another dimension and return back here without getting a scratch! You probably could kill a Satan as well.

"I already tried that -nyou."

"You actually tried it!?"

“But it was impossible-nyou. There was no-one who would give Mil-tan magical powers – nyou.”

“Well in other words you kind of seem like you already have a certain magical power....”

“The only option left is to ask the arch-enemy, devil-nyou.”

For some reason he sees the devil as his arch-enemy.....But I will try not to get too deep into it.

“Devil-san!!”

The room was shaken with the sound of the guy’s, Mil-tan’s voice. What is this!? Sound magic!?

“Please give Mil-tan the power of fantasy nyou!!!”

“Don’t worry, you already look fantastic enough! I’m the one who feels like crying!”

I felt like crying. Dammit! Why am I the only one looking after weirdos!? What’s the meaning of this!?

“Mil-tan! Mil-tan! Calm down! I will listen to what you have to say!”

First things first, I need to calm this guy down and listen to his story. Mil-tan with lots of tears flowing out from his eyes made the biggest smile ever.

“Then let’s watch “Magic Girl Milky Spiral 7 Alternative” together –nyou. The story about the magic starts from there –nyou.”

My long night started from there.

The next day.

After the regular club activity I was on my way home. Sigh..... Even today Buchou had a weird expression because I couldn’t make a contract twice in a row. But I received the best feedback. Buchou was again confused because she encountered an incident that she never had experienced twice in a row. I’m sorry for getting involved in a weird situation. I feel bad, but my road to get a peerage seems like a hard task now..... Last night I was watching the anime DVD till morning. I wasn’t serious in watching the Magical Girl anime initially, but it had some good scenes which made me watch it seriously and I ended up watching till morning. Besides that, why are all of my clients a bunch of weirdos?

"Hahaha. Hyoudou-kun must have a magical power which attracts people like that."

Kiba said something like that earlier with a nice smile. Die Casanova! Apparently most of the people who summon him are good looking women. Dammit! What kind of wishes is he offering them!? Is it sex!? Or sex related!? Just thinking about it makes me want to murder him! Shit! Damn you, Kiba!

“Hawaa!”

Huh? Suddenly I heard a voice. I heard the voice from behind me, along with the sound of something falling down on the ground. When I turned around there was a sister who was on the floor. Her arms were spread open and it seemed like she fell on the ground on her face. That is an uncool way of falling down.

“Ummm...are you okay?”

I went near the sister and offered her my hand.

“Awwww. Why do I keep on tripping over.... Oh, I’m sorry. Thank you very much.”

She sounds young by her voice. She might of been the same age as me. I grabbed her hand and helped her stand. –SWING- The wind took her veil off.



Her blond hair which was hidden underneath falls down onto her shoulders. Her straight blond hair is sparkling with light because of the sunshine. Then my gaze was attracted to her face. My heart was taken by her instantly. There was a beautiful blond girl standing right in front of me. Both of her green eyes looked so beautiful that it felt like it would suck me in..... For a while I was gaping at her.

“Umm, what happened.....?”

The sister looked directly into my face with a worried expression.

“Oh..sorry. Ummm...”

I couldn't find the right words to speak. I can't tell her that I was attracted by her beauty. But she is.....that. I'm talking about that. Yes, that. She looks exactly like my ideal blond beauty! Of course I would be attracted to her! It feels like I need to continue talking to her. Maybe this is a flag! I was thinking something selfish like that. Then I looked at her shoulder and she was carrying a traveling bag. To think about it logically, seeing a nun in a town like this is a rare occasion. It was my first time seeing one. Before that I picked her veil up. Luckily it had fallen down nearby.

“Ummm, traveling?”

“No, that's not it. I was appointed to the Church in this town. You must be a resident of this town. It's a pleasure to meet you.”

She bows her head. Hmmm. Getting placed in the Church of this town. Staff reassignment? Looks like the Church is busy as well huh?

“I was troubled since I got here. Ummm I can't speak Japanese that well..... I was lost and other people couldn't understand what I was saying.....”

She held her hand together in front of her chest and looked really sad. So that means this person can't speak Japanese..... The reason why she can speak with me is because this is the power of a devil. That's what Buchou told me before.

"When you turn into a devil you get a unique ability called “language”. As soon as you turn into a devil, everyone in the world can understand what you are saying. People listening to you will hear it in the language they are most familiar with. If they are American then they will hear it in English. If they are Spanish then they will hear it in Spanish. And the opposite, if they speak in another language you will hear it in Japanese."

Yeah its happening like Buchou said. During the English lecture, I heard everything in Japanese. I was shocked. When I was told to read an English paragraph by the English teacher, I somehow read it. All of my classmates looked shocked. Of course they would, since I can speak English naturally now. Even the teacher froze because of it. Well the letters and vocabulary didn't change to Japanese because it's limited to sound only. But that's good enough, since it's too

amazing if I can exchange language anywhere in the world. Just like that I turned into an “international” high school student.

“I think I know where the church is.”

I think there was an old church in the outer part of the town. I think it’s that church. But is that church still even used?

“You do! Thank you! This is all thanks to God!”

She smiled at me with tears flowing from her eyes. This girl is really cute. But when I look at the rosario on her chest, it gives me an extremely negative reaction. Well, of course it would, since I’m a devil. She is the type of human that I should not talk to or get involved with. But I can’t let a girl in trouble alone. Like this, I took this sister to the church.

On our way to the church, we went past a park.

“Uwaaaaah!”

What I heard was the cry of a boy.

“Are you alright Yosh-kun?”

Since the boy is with his mom, he should be fine. It seems like he only tripped over. But suddenly, the sister who was walking behind me turned towards the park.

“Hey.”

Sister went inside the park and went towards the boy who was still crying. I also followed behind the sister.

“Are you okay? Boys shouldn’t cry with a minor injury like this.”

Sister patted the boy's head. The boy probably didn't understand what she was saying, but the sister had a very kind expression. The Sister put her palm where the boy had injured himself. Next moment I was shocked. There was a green light orb which appeared from the sister’s palm and was flashing onto the boy’s knee. What’s that? Magic powers? Buchou said that it can only be used by devils and someone related to devils. When I looked carefully, the boy’s injury started to disappear. Is the light from her hand healing the boy’s injury? Something appeared on my mind. Sacred Gear. A special power which is bestowed to certain people. I think that’s what Kiba said before. I somehow felt like it as well. When I looked at that light, I could feel my left arm aching. This has to be related. Did my Sacred Gear react with her Sacred Gear? Is it responding to it? When I looked again, the boy’s injury was gone. There wasn’t even a trace left. Amazing. This is the power of a Sacred Gear.... There are all types and kinds of it..... The boy’s mother was startled. Anyone who sees unimaginable things will have a similar reaction.

“Here, your wound's healed. The pain should be gone now.”

The sister patted the boy's head and looked at me.

“I'm sorry. But I had to.”

She laughed while sticking her tongue out. The boy's mother, who was startled before, shook her head then grabbed the boy's hand so they could leave quickly.

“Thank you, sister!”

The boy's words. Words of gratitude.

“He said, thank you sister.”

She smiled happily after I translated for her.

“That power.....”

“Yes, it's the power to heal. It's a special power that God gave me.”

She looked a bit sad, even though she was smiling. How should I explain it? It seems like she has some dark past or something. I probably shouldn't get too deep into it.

It's not the atmosphere where I should say “Actually I have a Sacred Gear as well!”. It's an unusual power, and some people may suffer because of it. Even I didn't feel happy when I had my Sacred Gear covering my arm. Instead I was really shocked. I still didn't know how to use this Sacred Gear, therefore I wasn't happy at all. The only thing I could do was to mimic kamehame-ha. The conversation ended there and we continued walking towards the church. We reached an old church after walking for a few minutes. Yeah, the only church I know is this. It's just as old as I thought. To tell the truth, I never knew that this place was still used. But you could see the light inside the church so that means that there were people inside.

I started to get a bad feeling and there was sweat coming out. Actually it was the same from before. I knew it. I'm a devil, so a church which belongs to God and the angels would be an enemy's territory for me. Even Buchou said that I should never get close to a church or a shrine.

“Yes, this is the place! Thank God!”

Sister showed a sigh of relief after having compared our location with the map she had. Oh, so this was the right place. That's good. I shouldn't stay here any longer. It's getting dark so I should be going now. It's a waste to say good bye to a beauty like her, but I'm a devil and she is a nun..... Love between different sides may sound romantic, but this would be a different case..... That's because I'm getting really scared of the church and my body won't stop shaking. Is this the sign of fear that is a special trait for devils? It feels like I'm a frog being watched by a snake.

“Then I’ll be on my way.”

“Please wait.”

I tried to split away from her, but the sister’s words stopped me.

“I would like to make you some tea....”

“Oh, I’m in a rush so I have to get going.”

“But that’s.....”

She’s getting worried. She probably wanted to make me some tea to show her gratitude. But drinking inside here was dangerous. It’s a shame but I have to refuse.

“My name is Hyoudou Issei. Everyone around me calls me Ise, so you can call me Ise as well. What’s your name?”

When I gave her my name, she smiled.

“My name is Asia Argento! Please call me Asia!”

“Then sister Asia, let’s meet again.”

“Yes Ise-san! I will definitely come and see you!”

Asia bowed her head down. I left the place after waving my hands towards her. She looked at me until I was out of her sight. I understood that she was a good girl. And this was our fateful destiny and our first meeting.

At night.

“Don’t ever get close to the church again.”

I was reprimanded by Buchou in the club room. Buchou’s expression looked more serious than usual. More like, I’m getting shouted at a lot.

“To us devils the church is an enemy's territory. Just stepping into it can cause a rift between the devils and the God. Since it was an act of kindness by taking the nun to the church they didn’t harm you. But the angels are always on the lookout and you were in a situation where it wouldn’t be strange for them to hit you with a spear of light.”

Are you serious?... Was I in such a serious situation? If I think about it, the chills I felt before weren't normal. I only felt fear at that time. So that's what it means to detect danger. My devil's instinct did tell me that it was a dangerous situation.

“Don't get involved with people from the church, especially the Exorcists. They are our biggest enemy. They could easily eliminate us because their powers are supported by the prayer of God. More so, if it is an Exorcist with a Sacred Gear. That would be the same as standing on the boundary of death, Ise.”

Buchou looked at me directly with her blue eyes while waving her crimson hair. Her eyes were serious so she wasn't joking.

“Ye, yes.”

“You could avoid death as a human by being resurrected as a devil. But devils who are exorcised become completely terminated. They return to nothing. Nothing. There is nothing left and you feel nothing. Do you know how serious that is?”

Nothing?...To tell the truth, I don't. Buchou shakes her head after seeing my confused face.

“I'm sorry, I got too heated. Anyway, be careful from now on.”

“Yes.”

My conversation with Buchou ended there.

“Oh my, did you finish lecturing him?”

“Wow!”

Akeno-san was standing behind me and I didn't even realize it. She was smiling as usual.

“Akeno did something happen?”

Akeno-san's expression changed after Buchou asked her that.

“We received an order for a hunt from the Arch Duke.”

Exiled-devils.

There are beings that are called as such. 'The devil who was turned into a servant-devil of a devil with a peerage but who betrayed or killed its master'. Cases like that often occur. Devils are enormously powerful. You can't even compare it to the time when you were a human. There would be those who choose to use that power for their own self-interests. Those devils leave

their master's place and rampage across the surrounding area. That is an “exiled-devil”. Because of this reason, the fallen-angel who was wearing a suit mistook me for an exiled-devil. In other words, a stray-dog. Stray dogs create troubles. When found, the master or the other devils are ordered to eliminate them. That is the law of the devils. Even others such as angels and fallen-angels see them as a threat and they would eliminate the exiled-devil whenever found. There is nothing scarier than a devil who does not abide by any rule.

I went to the unused building located at the outer part of the town along with Buchou, Akeno-san, Kiba and Koneko-chan. Every night, an exiled-devil is luring humans to the building so as to feed on them. As such there was a request from the high-class devils to hunt them.

[It has escaped to the territory of Rias Gremory so I would like to ask you to eliminate it.]

Apparently this is also one of the jobs of a devil. Eating a human..... There are evil devils like that as well.... No, naturally devils are like that.... So the only reason they are quiet is because they abide by the law? Then if there was no law?

Yeah truly a devil.....

It's midnight and it's a world of darkness. There's a lot of tall grass surrounding me and I can see the unused building far away from here. It's one of the devil's traits to have a clear view at night. Hmmm...Having a clear view of a creepy place like this isn't so good....

“Smell of blood.....”

I covered my nose with my uniform after Koneko-chan spoke. Smell of blood? I couldn't smell anything. So Koneko-chan has a good sense of smell. It became quite. I could feel the presence of an enemy nearby, and its intent to kill us wasn't normal. My feet were shaking. I was really scared. If the others weren't here, I would have already escaped. Buchou who was up at the front and putting her hands on her hips looked very reliable!

“Ise, it's a good opportunity to experience what it's like to fight.”

Buchou was asking me something hard to accept.

“Wait, are you serious!? I'm positive that I won't be of much use!”

“Yes. It's still impossible now.”

She said it straight at me. I kind of felt sad.

“But you can watch what a devils' battle is like. Today just concentrate and look at how we fight. Oh yes. I will also explain the traits the servants have.”

“Explain? The traits servants have?”

I was making a confused expression but Buchou continued talking to me.

“Devils who become a master give traits to those who will become their servants. Yes it’s probably about time I explain about it and the history of devils....”

Buchou started to explain about the current situation of the devils.

“There was a three sided war between the devils, the fallen angels, and God with its angels followers. All three sides had a large army and they fought for almost eternity. As a result, all three sides lost most of their troops and the war finished several hundred years ago with no side winning.”

Kiba continued after Buchou.

“The devils were no exception. Big devils with peerage who commanded about 20 or 30 troops lost most of their underlings because of the war. They lost so many that they couldn’t even form new armies.”

Akeno-san continued on from there.

“I heard that most of the pure devils passed away in that war. But even after the war, there are still problems between the devils, the fallen angels and God. Even when the fallen angels and God's side also lost most of their troops, we are still in a position where we can’t let our guard down or else we will be in trouble.”

Then Buchou spoke again.

“Then the devils decided to use a system to form a small group of soldiers. And that is the evil piece.”

“Evil piece?”

Seems like it’s going to get complicated, but it looks like I have to listen to it seriously.

“Devils with peerage decide to use the traits of the human’s game “chess” to their servant devils. It was a sarcasm because most of the servants are devils that were reincarnated from humans. Since then chess became a popular game in the world of the devils. We’ll leave that aside. Devils who are masters are a “King”. In our case that is me. From there they created 5 special traits which consists of Queen, Rook, Bishop, and Knight. Since they couldn’t make an army, they decided to have a small number of devils and give them enormous powers. This system was made in the past few hundred years, and this unexpectedly became popular amongst devils with peerage.”

“Popular? You mean the chess rule?”

“They started to compete against each other. For example like, “My knight is stronger!”, or “No, my rook is stronger!” As a result high-class devils started to play a game like that of chess against each other using their servant devils. We call it the “Rating Game”. Anyway this game became very popular amongst the devils. Now there are even tournaments for it. The strength of their “pieces” and also how strong they are at the game affects the devils' social position, and their peerage. There is a thing called “Piece collect” where they gather humans with talents and make them into their pieces. It is very popular recently. Talented servants become their status.”

I see. So being a strong one in that game means that you are a splendid devil. It also becomes your pride then. Ummm..... So servant devils are former humans and they function by becoming pieces in the game. I feel it's complicated. So will I be someday forced to fight in that game?.

“I’m not a matured devil yet, so I can’t participate in a formal tournament. Even if I could, there are things that I need to go through or else I can’t play. In short, Ise and my servants here won’t be participating in a game for a while.”

“So does that mean that Kiba and the others haven't played in that game yet?”

“Yeah.”

Kiba answered my question. Hmmm...The world of devils is strange. I used to imagine them being evil and scary, but it looks like my imagination was incorrect. Or maybe I feel like that because I’m still ignorant of the ways of the devils world. Before that there is something that is bothering me. Yes, my position is a “piece”.

“Buchou, what is my role and traits? And what piece am I?”

“Ise, you are.....”

Buchou stopped there. I also knew the reason why. I felt chills all over my body. That’s because of the presence of the enemy and its intent to kill became much stronger. There is something approaching us! Even a guy like me who just turned into a devil felt it.

“I can smell something disgusting. But I can also smell something delicious. Is it sweet? Or is it sour?”

A low voice which sounds like it’s coming from below the ground. This weirdness isn’t normal. Just hearing its voice scares me.

“Exiled-devil Vaizor. We are here to eliminate you.”

“Kwakwakwakwakwakwa.....”

The abnormal laughter echoes around us. Aaaaah, I now clearly understand. This isn’t a laugh of a human. It’s also not a laugh of a devil that I know of. Ummm..... From the shadows, a thing

showed up. It was a topless woman. But the woman's body was floating. No...Bamn...heavy footsteps.. The next thing that appeared was the body of a gigantic beast. It was a grotesque being with an unnatural form having a woman's upper body and the lower body of a monster. It was holding something that looks like a spear in both of its hands. The lower body of the monster had four fat legs with sharp claws. Is it a snake tail? Wow! The tail is moving on its own! From the size of it, it is definitely more than 5 meters tall. If it stands on its hind legs, won't it be much taller? Either way, it's a monster. Is this also a devil? Well duh, since Buchou called it an "exiled-devil". Man, there are things like this as well!? I confirmed it again. Devils are scary!

"Leaving your master's side, and rampaging as you please definitely deserves death. In the name of Duke Gremory, I will gladly eliminate you!"

"You are cunning for a little girl!! I will rip your body and color it in red just like your hair!!"

The monster was barking, but Buchou just laughed with her nose.

"Vaizor speaks in a stylish manner. Yuuto!"

"Yes!"

Swoof! Kiba, who was near me, sprinted ahead as soon as Buchou ordered him to. Fast. He's insanely fast. I couldn't even respond to it!

"Ise, I will continue from the lecture before."

Buchou said to me. Lecture? The thing about Evil-pieces traits?

"Yuuto's position is "Knight". Its trait is speed. Those who become a knight have their speed increased."

Just like Buchou said, Kiba's speed was increasing, and eventually I couldn't follow his movements with my eyes. The monster was using its spear to attack, but it didn't seem like it would hit.

"And Yuuto's ultimate weapon is swords."

Kiba stopped his movements and suddenly he was holding a European sword. He took it out of the scabbard and the naked sword was reflecting the light of the moon. Swoof. Kiba suddenly disappeared again. The next moment I heard the scream of the monster.

"Gyaaaaaaaaah!!"

When I looked, both of its arms were separated from the torso along with the spear. Blood gushed out of its wound.

“This is Yuuto’s power. Speed which you can’t follow with your eyes, and sword skills of that of a professional. By combining these two, he became the fastest knight.”

There was a shadow near the monster’s legs.....Wait! That’s Koneko-chan!

“Next is Koneko. She is a “Rook”. The trait of a rook is its ---”

Stamp! The enormous monster tried to stamp on Koneko-chan! Ko, Koneko-chan! No, she’s in trouble....! But the monster’s foot didn’t hit the ground. It couldn’t be. The girl with a tiny body is lifting up the monster’s foot.

“The trait of a rook is simple. Absolute strength and also very high defense. It’s impossible for a devil with that caliber to stamp on Koneko. It can’t crush her.”

Lift...Koneko-chan completely lifted up the monster.

“Fly....”

Koneko-chan jumped high and punched into the monster’s stomach very sharply.

Bang! The enormous body of the monster was thrown backwards. I remembered the word of the client that loves Koneko-chan, Morizawa-san. “Koneko-chan has extreme strength. She even lifted me”. It’s not something you call extreme strength! That enormous monster went flying with just one punch! Yes I will make sure not to mess with Koneko-chan. I will probably get killed just by getting poked by her finger. Super-human girl... Scary... Morizawa-san who fell in love with her at first sight is also scary.

“Lastly Akeno”

Akeno-san is laughing and walking towards the monster who went flying by a hit from Koneko-chan.

“Akeno is a “Queen”. It’s the person who is the strongest after me. She is the unbeatable queen who has all the traits of pawn, knight, bishop, and rook.

“Guguuuuuuu.....!”

The monster was staring at Akeno-san. Akeno-san had a fearless laugh after seeing the monster’s gaze.

“Oh my, seems like you still have some energy left in you. Then how about this?”

Akeno-san puts her hands towards the sky. -FLASH-. Suddenly the sky sparkled, and a lightning bolt strikes down the monster.

“Gagagaggaaaaaa!”



The monster received the electric shock dead on. Its entire body was burnt and smoke was coming out from it.

“Oh my, seems like you are still energetic. Looks like you can take more.”

Flash. Another lightning bolt hit the monster.

“Gwaaaaaaah!!”

Akeno-san's face while striking down the lightning bolt had a scary and cold expression even though she was smiling. Oh man... That person is enjoying it....because she's laughing.

“Akeno excels at using attacks made from magical powers. She could use natural elements like lightning, ice, and fire and such. And most of all, she is the ultimate sadist.”

Buchou confessed it like if it was nothing. Sadist!? It's not something you call a sadist!?

“Usually she's very kind. But once the battle starts, she won't stop until she calms down.”

“Sob.....I'm scared of Akeno-san...”

“You don't have to be afraid, Ise. Akeno is very kind to comrades so it's not a problem. She even said that you were cute. Next time, get spoiled by her. She will definitely hug you kindly.”

“Fufufufufufu. How much of my lightning can you take Monster-san? You still can't die yet. The one who finishes you off will be my master. Ohohohoh!”

Buchou....I'm getting very scared of the person in front of me who is laughing very loudly.... I thought she was the person with the most common sense. Well she is a devil after all.... That's how it is, isn't it? Since she is a devil, she has to be scary, right?

For a few minutes Akeno-san's lightning attacks continued. After Akeno-san calmed down, Buchou confirmed it and nodded her head. Buchou approached the monster that had already lost its will to fight. Buchou put her hand towards the monster.

“Any last words?”

“Kill me.”

That's the only thing the monster said.

“Is that so? Then disappear.”

A heartless reply. Buchou's voice gave me the chills. Boom! A gigantic black magic ball shot out from Buchou's palm. It was big enough to cover all of the monster's body. The magic ball

took in the monster's body. When the magic ball disappeared, so did the monster's body. Just like Buchou said, it disappeared. Buchou made a sigh after confirming it.

"It's over. Good work everyone."

Buchou said it to the club members. Everyone was back to their usual self. So the "exiled-devil" hunt is over, huh? The fate for the exiled-devils. I don't know what to say. That thing also left its master's side because it had something in its mind..... So this is a devils' battle..... It was a fierce fight. Along with the exiled-devils, there are things I still need to learn.... So I have to aim up high from here.... Maybe I have to think in decades, then I remembered the problem. The thing about position of Evil-Pieces from earlier. Since I'm a servant of a devil with peerage, then I should have a certain "Piece".

"Buchou, there is still a thing that you didn't tell me."

"What is it?"

Buchou responded with a smile.

"My piece.... more like what is my role as a servant."

To tell you the truth, I already predicted the worst case. More like there was only "that" left. But I still had a naive hope. Akeno-san is a "Queen", Koneko-chan is a "Rook", and Kiba is a "Knight". So there are two pieces left. The "Bishop" and.....the "Pawn". I was hoping for it, but it was shattered instantly. The crimson-haired beauty smiled at me and said it clearly.

"You are a "Pawn". Ise, you are a pawn."

I was the lowest.

Life 3: Made a friend

“Haaaah..... The road to achieving a successful career sure is hard.”

I was in my room looking at the ceiling and making a fuss.

"Pawn".

That's my trait and role. Man, pawn is the lowest..... So I have to aim up from there... My road to getting a peerage started by getting onto a rough road. My road to become a proper devil is full of troubles. By the way, there is someone else who is Buchou's "Bishop". She told me the same day when I found out my role as a servant.

“My “Bishop” already exists. But that bishop is not here. The bishop is at a different place, following a different order, working for me. If there is a chance, then I will introduce the bishop to you.”

That's what she said. Who is that person? Maybe I could meet that person soon. I hope it's a girl. So I was chosen as the left over “Pawn”. Haaah, I have many difficulties to overcome. When I think about it, was I actually okay with this? I was killed by a fallen-angel because of the dragon-ha equipping device, the Sacred Gear. They also used my feelings of love. Then after that, I was turned into a devil. I was picked up by a beautiful devil who said to me that I was her “servant” and then was deceived to believe a sweet dream of making my own harem. I work my butt off every day as Buchou's servant. Handing out leaflets and making contracts. But my magical power is low, so I can't use the magical circle to get teleported to the client's place.

Something like this has never happened before. The worst devil ever. That's me. I inhaled some air. If I think about it, I never had any special features even before I turned into a devil. I tried a lot of things to become popular among the girls, but after all, I can't win against any good looking guys. I also never had any dreams before I turned into a devil. Well, maybe that's a good thing that I turned into a devil because I have a dream now. Wait, is even turning into a devil a good thing? Well, if I hadn't been saved by Buchou back then, my life would have been over. Just like this, I didn't have time to enjoy my youth. Well it's kinda....fun. I'm surrounded by a bunch of bishojous and everyone is kind. Well for a devil that is. Rias-buchou is beautiful. Akeno-san is okay as long as I don't piss her off.....I think. Koneko-chan also isn't a problem as long as I act normal. Kiba pisses me off, but he talks to me normally. He's actually nice even though he's a good-looking guy. Hmmm, you can't judge people by their appearance. Looks like my imagination of a good looking guy is changing. Then I remembered about the beautiful blond sister Asia, she was a good girl. If I were to have a girlfriend..... Then I stopped there and covered my face. Wait, I just went through that rough unrequited love. Damn it, playing with my feelings..... Yuuma-chan, I actually loved you. Shit. Why is my life always controlled by someone else? Maybe that's how life works. A lot of mysterious things happened around me, so I have a feeling that I was dragged into it.

That sister.....Asia. The person who is standing on the opposite side of me. I probably won't meet her ever again. We just happened to be the servant of a devil and the servant of God. We

just met by chance. We probably shouldn't see each other again or it might lead us to an unfortunate destiny. Just like that, I was thinking something cool.

“Aaaah, yes, yes, I'm just a weak pawn. There's nothing good about me, so can I even get a peerage? How about it, Satan? Well, it's probably useless discussing this with the Satan anyways.”

I laughed bitterly at myself. I've decided. I'm going to have an goal. That's it. First of all, my goal will be to use the magic circle to get transported. This will be my first step. Yes, it all starts here. Yes! I'm getting fired up. Sobbing time is over. I've turned into a devil, and that can't be changed. Then I will have to live on as a devil, and will make my dream come true. Even if I can't, I'm still going to work hard to achieve it. Yes! I can do it! Yes, I can!

[Midnight].

I was on my bicycle heading towards a particular house. Not a mansion or apartment but just an ordinary house. It's my first time, but what should I do? Since the client isn't living alone, won't the client's family see me? Because I actually have to visit the house to make a contract. I was told before that ordinary humans can't detect me, but does it apply to this situation as well? I was worried but I realized, when I was about to push the bell, that the entrance door was open. Seriously, leaving the door open in the middle of the night....

<HEARTBEAT>

I suddenly felt uneasy. What is this? I have a really bad feeling. But my feet were already moving in the house. I looked inside from the entrance. There were no lights in the hallway. There was a staircase that led to the second floor. There was only one room at the end of the first floor with some lights on, but it was a faint light. Yes, there's something definitely wrong.... I feel no presence of any human. Are they sleeping? Impossible. Then I wouldn't feel this uneasiness. I took my shoes off at the entrance and carried it in my hand. I walked towards the room without making a sound. I'm a devil, not a thief. I was thinking of an excuse like that. I looked into the room from the door that was slightly opened. There were candles making the room bright.

“Hello.....? I'm a devil from the Gremory's household.... Umm, is the client here?”

I asked quietly but there was no reply. It couldn't be helped so I entered the room. It was a living room and there was a television, a sofa, a table and such. It looked like an ordinary living room. Then I stopped breathing. My sight was caught by something on the wall. There was a corpse nailed to the wall upside down. It's the corpse of a human.....It's a male..... Did he live here? But why.....? The corpse had been cut viciously. Something which looked like a giblet was coming out from the wounded parts.

“Cough!”

I vomited on the spot. I didn't vomit when I saw that monster, but seeing a corpse... Man, I can't look at it anymore.... The corpse is nailed to the wall with a screw, making the shape of a cross upside down. There were big and thick screws nailed onto both palms of the hands, feet, and at the middle of its torso. This isn't normal. Not normal at all! You can't kill a person like this with a normal mind. There was a puddle of blood on the floor from the drips of blood falling from the corpse. There were writings on the wall.

“Wh, what is this....?”

“It's written as “Punishment for those who did bad deeds!”. I just borrowed the sentence from someone important.”

Suddenly I heard the voice of a young male behind me. When I turned around, it was a man with white hair. He's young and he seemed to be a foreigner and he looked like he's still a teenager. He's dressed up as a priest. He was also good looking. The priest made an evil smile as soon as he saw me.

“Hmmm. Well, well. If it isn't a devil-kun!”

He seemed really happy. Then the thing that Buchou told me comes back to my mind.

"Don't get involved with people from the church. Especially the Exorcists. They are our biggest enemy. They can easily eliminate us because their powers are supported by the prayer of God."

Shit it's a priest. Then he's related to the Church. He even knows that I'm a devil. I'm in a serious situation again.....

“I'm a priest. A boy priest. I cut devils. And I laugh while cutting the head of you devils. Lalalala.”

The priest started to sing. What is wrong with this guy!?

“My name is Freed Zelzan. I belong to a certain Exorcism group. Oh, just because I introduced myself, you don't need to introduce yourself. Please don't. Because remembering a devil's name is a waste of my memory. It's okay. You are going to die soon. I will make sure of it. It might hurt at first, but later you will feel so good that you will cry. Now let's open the new door!”

I've never met someone like him before. He's insane. So he is an exorcist. I'm in trouble now. But there's something I want to say to him. I swallowed down my spit and asked him.

“Hey, you. Did you kill this person?”

“Yes. Yes, I killed him. Because he was a regular criminal who has been summoning devils. So I had to kill him.”

What kind of an excuse is that?

“Huh? Are you shocked? Aren’t you running away? That’s weird? Weird indeed. I mean humans who makes a pact with devils are scum. Scum indeed. Can’t you understand that? No? Is that so? Well you are a scum, devil.”

This guy is crazy! You can’t even talk to him normally. But I will say what I have to.

“How can a human kill another human, then!? Aren’t you only supposed to kill devils?”

“Huh? What the fuck is that? A devil like yourself lecturing me? Hahaha. I will laugh at this. You probably could get a reward for being funny. Okay then. Listen carefully you shitty devil. Devils use humans' greed to survive. If you live by making a pact with a devil, then you are no longer a human. It’s the end. That’s why I killed him. I make a living by killing devils and those that are contracted to a devil. That’s my job.”

“Even devil’s won’t go this far!”

“Huh? What are you talking about? Devils are trash. It’s common sense. Didn’t you know? Seriously, you should start your life back from a toddler. Wait, it’s useless to tell this to a reincarnated devil like you. More like, I have to kill you. Hahahaha. It’s awesome, isn’t it?”

The priest pulled out a sword which had no blade and a gun.

BOOOM. A sound vibrates in the air. The sword which only had a handle turned into a thing like a beam saber. What is that? It looks like a beam saber from “Gundam”.

“You kind of irritate me, so can I cut you? Can I shoot you? Is it okay? Okay then. Now I’m going to stab your heart with this light sword, and I’m going to blow your head with this cool looking gun! Man I’m seriously going to fall in love!”

SWIFT. The priest came sprinting towards me! He slashed his sword at me. Oh crap! I just dodged it, but I felt intense pain on my leg. Smoke was coming out of the priest’s gun. Was I shot? But I didn’t hear any gunshots. Then suddenly I felt another shot of pain on my leg again.

“Gwaaaaah!”

I moaned on the spot and fell on my knees. This time I was shot on my left calf! It hurts! But I know this pain!

“How is it!? The special bullet made from light that is specially made for exorcists! And it doesn’t make any sound. Because the bullet is made from “light”. This situation turns both of us on, doesn’t it?”

The pain of “light”. Yes, this is the pain of light. To a devil, light is poisonous. Once hit, the pain goes through your entire body.

“Die! Die devil! Turn to dust and disappear! This is all for my entertainment!”

The priest was laughing madly and was about to finish me off.

“Please stop!”

Then there was a familiar voice. The priest froze his posture to where he was about to attack me, and looked at the place where the voice came from. I also looked in the same direction. A girl was there and I knew her.

“Asia.”

Yes, the blond sister was there.

“Well if it isn’t my assistant, Asia-chan. What happened? Did you finish putting the barrier?”

“No..nooooooooo!!”

Asia screamed after looking at the corpse that was nailed to the wall.

“Thank you for the adorable scream! Oh yeah, this is your first time seeing a corpse like this, isn’t it Asia-chan? Then look carefully. This is the fate of humans that are entranced by a devil.”

“No, no.....”

She then looked at us and was astonished to see me.

“Father Freed.....that person...”

Asia looked at me directly.

“Person? No, no. This shit here is a devil. Hahahahaha. What are you misunderstanding?”

“Ise-san is a devil.....”

She apparently was shocked to find the truth, and couldn’t find what to say.

“What, what? You guys know each other? Wow. Now this is a big surprise. Is it the forbidden love between a devil and a sister? Seriously? Are you serious? ”

Freed, the priest, looked at both Asia and I. I didn’t want her to know..... It was better that she didn’t know. I had no intention to see her again. I just wanted her to think of me as a kind high school student. How can I pull out from this? Man, this sucks. What a rotten destiny. Asia’s eyes are making me feel bad. I’m sorry. I’m sorry for being a devil.

“Ahahahaha! Devils and humans can never coexist! Especially humans that are from the church for whom devils are the biggest enemies! Also we are a group of heresy that was deserted by God. Asia and I are humans that can’t survive without the support of fallen-angels.”

Fallen-angel? What does he mean? Doesn’t priests and nuns work under God?

“Anyways I don’t actually care about that. But I need to kill this trash here to finish my job. Are you ready?”

The priest thrusts his sword toward me again. If I get stabbed by that in my chest, I will be killed.... Even if I do survive, I will end up like that corpse. My body is getting scared thinking about it. This is bad! This situation is really bad! I can’t move my body and I will be killed! While I was thinking about it, the blond sister walked between the priest and I. She stood in front of me with her arms spread as if she was protecting me. The priest’s expression changed after seeing this.

“Hey, hey.... Are you serious? Asia-tan, do you know what you are doing?”

“Yes, Father Freed. I do. I beg you, please forgive this person. Please let him go.”

I was left speechless after hearing her. Asia? Are you protecting me?

“I can’t stand it anymore..... You can’t kill people just because they are entranced to a devil. You also can’t kill devils. It’s wrong!”

“Haaaaaaaah!? Don’t talk shit, bitch! You learnt that devils are trashes at church! Seriously, you have issues in your brain!”

Freed now had an anguished expression.

“There are good people, even among devils!”

“There aren’t, moron!”

“That’s what I thought until recently..... But Ise-san is a good person. That fact doesn’t change even after I found out that he is a devil! Killing someone is unforgivable! God won’t allow such acts!”

She saw the corpse. She found out that I’m a devil. She should be shocked. But Asia isn’t backing down when telling her beliefs to the priest. What a strong willed girl. This girl is amazing.

SLAP.

“Kya!”

The bastard priest hit Asia to the side with his gun. Asia fell to the ground.

“Hey, Asia!”

I went to Asia who was struck away. There’s a bruise mark on her face..... That bastard actually hit her.

“The fallen-angel girl insisted that I don't kill you. But I’m getting a bit pissed. I can’t kill you, but maybe I can rape you? If I don’t, I won’t be able to heal my heart. But before that, I need to kill that trash over there.”

The priest pointed his sword at me again. I can’t run away while leaving Asia here.... I can’t leave her here with him who just talked about doing scary stuff. If I’m running away, then it will be with Asia. So I have to fight... Can I fight using my Sacred Gear? Even though I don’t know its effect? I’m also the weakest piece, “Pawn”. I have a slim chance of winning. But I have to....

“I can’t leave a girl who just defended me. So come!”

I made a fighting posture in front of the priest. The priest whistled and seemed really happy.

“Huh? Seriously? You are gonna fight me? You will die? You will die with a lot of pain? I have no intention of killing you painlessly, okay? Now then. Let’s see if I can make a new record of the smallest minced-meat!”

He’s talking something creepy again. But I can’t be uncool in front of Asia! The priest jumped up high.....then the floor glowed in a blue and white color.

“What is this?”

The priest was in doubt and the part where he was standing also glowed. The blue light started to form a shape. It was a magic circle. And I had seen this before. The magic circle of the Gremory household.

SHINE.

The magic circle that appeared on the floor shined. Then the people I know appeared. I mean devils.

“We came to rescue you, Hyoudou-kun.”

Kiba send me a smile.

“Oh my, this is awful.”

“Priest.....”

Akeno-san and Koneko-chan! Yes, my comrades. They came to rescue me! I was so moved that I felt like crying! Great! Something like this actually happens!?

“Wowooooof! Here’s a present for a group of devils!”

The priest started slashing his sword.

KACHIN.

The sound of the metal echoed through the room. Kiba blocked the priest's attack with his sword.

“I’m sorry. He’s one of us! We can’t let you lay a finger on him!”

“Wow, wow! A touching word coming out from a devil! What are you guys? Devil Rangers? That’s nice. I can feel the heat. I’m getting turned on! So how is it? Are you the one doing it? Is he the one bending? So are you guys in this kind of relationship?”

They were exchanging swords but the priest was full of himself sticking his tongue out. He was shaking his tongue along with his head. That guy is completely looking down on us! Even Kiba had an anguished expression. Yeah, that guy is definitely disgusting.

“What a vulgar mouth..... It’s hard to believe you are a priest..... Oh, that’s why you are an “exiled-exorcist”, right?”

“Yes, yes! I’m vulgar! I’m sorry about that! Because I’m an exiled! I was kicked out! That’s why, screw the Vatican! I’m alright as long as I get to cut devils whenever I feel like it!”

Both of them were still exchanging swords. Kiba had a calm expression, but his eyes had already captured his foe. The teenage priest, Freed, was still laughing and enjoying the fight.

“You are the type that is the most hard to deal with. Someone who feels like they are living by cutting devils..... To us the most harmful type.”

“Haaah!? I don’t want to be told off by a devil! I’m trying to live now just like other people! I’m not in a position where pests like you can talk down to me!”

“Even devils have rules.”

Akeno-san was smiling, but her eyes were serious. She was showing a sign of will to fight towards Freed.

“Nice. I like those passionate eyes. Big sis, you are amazing. I can feel your urge of wanting to kill me. Is this love? No. I think it’s a killing intent! Superb! This is great! I love the feeling of intending to kill and getting intended to kill!”

“Then disappear.”

The person who appeared on my side was the crimson-haired girl. Rias-buchou!

“Ise, I’m sorry. I never expected the exorcist to visit this client’s house.”

Buchou, who was apologizing to me, narrowed her eyes after seeing my wounds.

“Ise.....Did you get wounded?”

“Ah, sorry.... I was shot.”

I tried to deceive her by laughing. Looks like I will get yelled at by her afterwards. Sorry for being weak, Buchou. But Buchou didn’t say anything to me and looked at the priest with a cold expression.

“Looks like you have been looking after my cute servant?”

Her voice was low and sounded scary. Wow, Buchou is pissed. Am I the reason?

“Yes, yes. I have been playing around with it. I was planning to cut his body all over but I was interrupted. It finished as if it was a dream.”

BANG!

A section of the furniture behind the priest was blown away. It was Buchou. Buchou shot out a ball of magic.

“I will never forgive those who harm my servants. I especially can’t forgive a lowlife like you damaging my personal possessions.”

Her intensity felt like if she froze the atmosphere. There were things, which seemed like waves of magic power surrounding Buchou.

“Buchou!, there seems to be a group of fallen-angels heading to this house. At this rate we will be at a disadvantage.”

Akeno-san seemed like she detected something and informed us. The fallen-angels are approaching? Those guys with black wings? Buchou gave another stare at the priest.

“.....Akeno, retrieve Issei and prepare the transport. We will go back to our headquarter.”

“Yes.”

Akeno-san started to cast a spell as soon as Buchou urged her to. Transport? Are we running away? I then looked at Asia.

“Buchou! We have to take her as well!”

I said that to Buchou.

“It’s impossible. Only devils can use the magic circle to transport. Also this magic circle can only transport me and my servants.”

No, no..... My eyes and Asia's eyes met. She just smiled at me.

“Asia!”

“Ise-san, let’s meet again.”

That was the last words we exchanged at this place. Next moment, Akeno-san finished her spell and the magic circle on the floor started to glow blue again.

“Like I will let you escape!”

The priest came slashing at us, but Koneko-chan threw the sofa against him. By the time the priest evaded the sofa with his sword, we were already transported to the club room. I didn’t have the time to think about the impression of my first transport. I only remembered the smile Asia gave me last.

“There are two types of exorcists.”

I was listening to Buchou’s explanation while getting my legs healed.

“The first are the exorcists who receives the blessing from God to perform exorcism in the name of justice. This group borrows its power from God and angels. And the other ones are called the “exiled-exorcists”.”

“Exiled?”

Buchou nodded at my question. Again with that “exiled”.

“Exorcism is a holy ceremony which is done in the name of God. But sometimes there are exorcists who start to enjoy killing devils. Killing devils become their purpose in life and it becomes their entertainment. So they get kicked out from the church without exception. Or they get erased for being found guilty.”

“Erased.....So they get killed.”

“But there are some who survive. What do you think happens to those bunch? Simple. They go to the fallen-angels.”

“Fallen-angels are the ones with black wings, right?”

“Yes. Even though fallen-angels are beings that were kicked out from the heaven, they still have the power of light which can kill devils. The fallen-angels also lost a lot of their comrades and their men in the previous war. That’s why they started to collect servants, just like us.”

I understood the situation as soon as she told me that much.

“So the fallen-angels and the exorcists who loved killing devils have the same objective. Killing the devils, right?”

“Yes, that’s exactly it. That’s why they are called “exiled-exorcists”. Some dangerous exorcists who became addicted to devil-hunts started to attack devils and humans with connections to devils by borrowing powers from the fallen-angels. So the boy priest from before is exactly like that. He is an “exiled-exorcist” and he is in a certain group with fallen-angels supporting them. They are not proper exorcists, but they are still dangerous like the proper ones. No, since they have no restrictions they are more hard to deal with. It’s not smart to deal with them. So, the church you went to before does not belong to God but to the fallen-angels.”

I knew they were a threat.....I realized how dangerous they were when I was fighting that shitty priest. He was really evil. He only thought about fighting and enjoyed killing devils. Getting in contact with the group where more shits like that exist was dangerous. I knew that. I understood that. But. But! So I had to say it to Buchou.

“Buchou! I need to save that girl, Asia!”

“It’s impossible. How will you pull it off? You are a devil and she is a servant of fallen-angels. It’s the two kinds that cannot coexist. Saving her means making the fallen-angels your enemies. If that happens we would also have to fight....”

“.....”

I didn’t know what to say. Buchou and others would get involved because of my selfishness. I compared Asia with Buchou and others. But I couldn’t find the answer. Which one was more important? That...that would be..... I realized what a small man I was, because I couldn’t find the right answer. I couldn’t save even a single girl. I was too weak.

“Haaaaa....”

Noon.

I’ve skipped school today, and I’m currently sitting on a bench in a children’s park. The wounds I received from the priest on my leg yesterday hasn’t completely healed. According to Buchou, “The power of light given to the priest must be really huge”.

For us devils, light is poisonous and it's quite a burden. With this leg I can't do the devil's job for a while so I was told to take a break by Buchou. Buchou probably has already talked to the teacher so it should be fine. That's because Buchou controls the school from the shadows.

RUMBLE.

My stomach rumbled. Now that I think about it I haven't eaten since morning. I have been thinking about Asia and my career as a devil the whole time. How can I save Asia? Before that, does Asia even like her current situation? That, I don't know. But I have made my own assumption that she wouldn't enjoy working in the same place as a psycho priest who would hit her. Ummmm. If I do things on my own it would also cause a lot of trouble to Buchou and the others. I want to get stronger..... That's the only thing in my mind right now. There are things that are possible to do only if you are strong. In my short life as a devil that is the only thing I'm sure of. It seems like I have to be stronger in order to achieve my dream.

Since then, I've learned how to make my Sacred Gear appear whenever I feel like. But since I don't know how to use it, it's a waste. But maybe relying on the Sacred Gear makes me a weakling. Okay, I'm going to start building muscles as soon as I heal! I'm also going to ask Buchou and Akeno-san how to use magical powers. I'm not happy but I'm going to ask how to use swords to Kiba as well..... Anyway I have my plans now. I'm gonna get stronger than that shitty priest. At least I need to be strong enough to run away from the fallen-angel on my own. Even though I'm a "Pawn" I can do it as long as I work hard. Well, I want to believe that. Since I have a new plan, I'll buy lunch somewhere and go home! When I got up from the bench, I saw a golden color. When I looked carefully there was a blond haired girl that I was familiar with. She also noticed me. Both of us were shocked to see each other.

"Asia.....?"

"Ise-san.....?"

"Owwwwwww....."

It was a strange sight. A sister was getting confused in front of the register.

"Ummm, what would you like to order.....?"

Even the employee was troubled. It was lunchtime and I took Asia to a fast food restaurant in a business district. It seemed like she never came to this kind of place before, so she was having a hard time choosing her meal. I offered to help, but she said proudly, "It's fine, I will manage somehow", so I have been watching her the whole time..... Thinking about it, she couldn't speak Japanese. So I helped her.

“Sorry. She will have the same order as me.”

“Okay.”

The employee took the order. Asia on the other hand was shocked.

“Ouuuu, I’m ashamed. I can’t even buy a single hamburger by myself....”

“Well, first you have to get used to Japanese.”

I tried to encourage her because she was feeling down. We moved to an empty table as soon as we got our meals. While we were moving inside the restaurant, most of the male customers were looking at Asia. It was because she is a nun, but also because she is really cute. Well, any guy would look at her if they saw her. We sat opposite each other, but Asia was taking a really good look at the hamburger and wasn’t eating it. More like she didn’t know how to eat it. Wow, what a strange development.

“Princess, you can eat this by taking the wrap off like this.”

I demonstrated while laughing a bit.

“There’s actually a way to eat like that!? Amazing!”

What a new reaction..... You are seriously cute, Asia.

“You also eat the fries like this.”

“Oh my!”

Asia was looking at me eating the fries with a very interesting look.

“No, no. You also eat Asia.”

“Ah, yes.”

She took a small bite of the burger. She then started chewing it.

“It’s delicious! This burger is very delicious!”

She said it with her eyes shining. What do you normally eat?

“You never ate burger before?”

“Yes that’s right. I have seen it often in television, but it’s my first time eating it. I’m moved! It’s delicious!”

“Wow. So what do you normally eat?”

“Mainly bread and soup. I also eat salad and pasta.”

Such simple food. Is church like that?

“Is that so? So eat it leisurely then. “

“Yes. I will eat it with joy.”

She started eating it, and Asia seemed to like it very much. But why was she in that park? She said that she had a time off, but it seemed like she was running away from something. When she saw me, she seemed relieved. I wanted to ask her but that could have been a thoughtless question. I probably should wait till she feels like telling me. I would gladly listen to her anytime. There is also the thing about Buchou and the others. But I can't tell her that. It's so irritating. Oh well, since she is enjoying eating her hamburger, I shouldn't ask her something that will make her depressed. Yeah, that's it. Just for today we should forget about everything. That was the conclusion I made.

“Asia.”

“Ah, Yes.”

“We will go and have some fun now.”

“Huh?”

“Let's go to the game center.”

“The fastest downhill driver, Ise!”

Boooooom! I put my foot down on the accelerator, and changed the gear around the curve! I then went past both cars!

“Fast! You are so fast Ise-san!”

Fufufu, are you watching me Asia? Now fall in love with my driving handling technique!

Just like that, I was playing a racing game at the game center. Even though I looked like this, I didn't join any school club before joining the Occult research club. I, Motohama, and Matsuda went through all of the game centers nearby. Racing game or not, I could beat any games!

[WIN!]

The sign which shows my victory appeared on my screen. Looks like I made a new track record again.... Like that I was falling for myself. Then I lost sight of Asia. When I took a look around, she was standing in front of the crane game.

“What is it?”

“Haaau! No, nothing.....It’s nothing.”

When I asked her she tried to deceive me.

“Is there something you want?”

When I looked inside the crane game there was a doll of “Rache-kun” inside. It’s a cute mascot based on a mouse. If I remember correctly, this character came from Japan but it’s popular worldwide. So that’s why Asia also knew it.

“Asia, do you like “Rache-kun”?”

“Ummm...no.....it’s....”

Asia’s face got red, and she admitted it shyly.

“Okay! I will get it for you!”

“Eh? Bu, but...!”

“It’s okay. I will get it.”

I put the coin in immediately and started controlling the crane. Even though I look like this, I’m pretty good at crane games. Well, that’s what I thought but I had a hard time getting it. On my first try I got the doll but dropped it. On my second try I totally missed. On my third and fourth try I missed as well. On my fifth try, Asia became worried but I finally managed to get it!

“Oh yeah!”

I made a guts pose and took the doll out. I then gave it to Asia.

“Here you go, Asia.”

Asia became so happy that she held the doll against her chest.

“Thank you very much, Ise-san. I will take care of this doll.”

“Hey, hey. If a doll like that makes you happy, then I’ll get you more dolls next time.”

That's what I said to her. But she shook her head.

"No. This Rache-kun that you gave me represents the wonderful day I met you. Since today is the only day I met you, I will take good care of this doll."

She actually said something embarrassing like that..... But it actually suits her saying that. Oh well!

"Okay! We haven't started yet! Asia we will play for the whole day today! Follow me!"

"Yes!"

I took Asia's hand and went further into the game center.

"Ah, we played a lot today."

"Oh yes....I'm a bit tired...."

We were walking the streets while laughing. It was already evening. Hahahaha, I've skipped school today and had fun till dusk. We were lucky not to get caught by the police. If we did then I would have been taken into custody. Both Asia and I were out of energy. It was fun to see Asia's reaction when we went to the game center and other shops. The dating plan that I had made for Yuuma-chan has proven to be of good use. It was weird how useful it had been for today.

"Aaaaah."

I almost tripped over because of the uncomfortable feeling on my leg.

"Ouch."

Then I felt a bit of pain as well. It's the wound from yesterday. The place where I was shot by that shitty priest hurt. Looks like the day when it would get healed was quite far now.

"Ise-san, that wound..... Is it from yesterday?"

Asia's expression got cloudy. I thought I messed up. We were having a good time, but I made her remember something painful. But Asia bended down and started to check my injuries.

"Can you please lift your trousers up?"

"Oh, sure."

I lifted my trousers and made my calf exposed. There was still a bullet mark left. Asia then placed her palm there. My calf was surrounded by a warm light. It was really a warm light. It was a green light. It was the same color as Asia's eyes and it looked so beautiful. It felt like her warmth was inside the light.

“How is it?”

Her light stopped, and she urged me to move. I moved my leg a bit. Huh? Wow. This is amazing!

“This is amazing Asia! I don't feel uncomfortable anymore! I don't feel any pain as well!”

I ran around a bit. Asia smiled at me after looking at me.

“You are amazing Asia. Your healing power is incredible. This is a Sacred Gear, right?”

“Yes it is.”

So it is after all.

“To tell you the truth, I also have a Sacred Gear. Though it's kinda useless.”

“Ise-san, you also have a Sacred Gear? I didn't realize it at all.”

“Well I don't even know its effect. And to compare it, Asia your power is amazing. This can heal humans, animals, and also devils like me, right?”

She made a confused expression, then a sad face. Soon after there was a drop of tear from her eyes. Then more tears started flowing out from her eyes. She then got down and started crying. I didn't know what to do, so I took her to a spot where we could sit. We sat on the bench on the roadside. Then she told me a story about the girl who was called the “Holy maiden”.

In a certain region in Europe, there was a girl who was discarded by her parents. She was raised in a church nearby by a nun along with other orphans. The girl who was a strong follower of the church received a special power at the age of 8. She healed a wounded puppy, and a person from the Catholic Church witnessed it by chance. From there on her life changed. The girl was taken to the main Catholic Church and she was symbolized by many as a “Holy maiden” because of her healing power. She used her power to heal many believers. They were told it was a power of divine protection. Rumors brought rumors and she was respected as a “Holy maiden” even without her approval. She had no dissatisfaction's for how she was treated. People from the church were kind and she didn't hate healing people. She instead was happy that her power was of use. The girl was thankful to God who had given her that power.

But she was a bit lonely. She didn't have any friends she could talk to. Everyone treated her nicely and was nice to her. But there were no one willing to become her friend. She understood

why. She knew that they were looking at her as something irregular. They didn't look at her as a human but as a creature that could heal humans.

But one day it changed. By coincidence there was a devil nearby and she healed it. She thought that even if it was a devil, she had to heal it if it was injured. It was her kindness that made her take such an action. But that changed her life forever. One of the people from the church saw that incident and notified others of the church. The higher ups of the church were shocked about it.

“A power that can heal devils!?”

“Something absurd like that cannot happen!”

“The power of healing is only to heal the followers of God!”

Yes, there were several people who had the power to heal. But the power to heal the devil was out of the question. The people of the church thought it was common sense that the power to heal doesn't work on fallen-angels and devils. Apparently a similar incident had happened in the past. The power to heal fallen-angels and devils that were not protected by God. But that was feared as the power of a “witch”. So the people saw her as a heretic.

“Damn witch that heals devils!”

The girl who was respected as a holy-maiden was now feared as a witch. So the Catholic Church kicked her out. The group that picked her up was a group of “exiled-exorcists”. In other words she had to get divine protection from the fallen-angels. But the girl never forgot to pray to God. She also never forgot to thank God. But the girl was still cast away. God didn't save her. What shocked her the most was that there was not even a single person that was willing to defend her. There was no one who cared about her.

“It's because I didn't pray enough..... See? It's because I'm clumsy. I'm so stupid that I can't even eat a burger by myself.”

The girl wiped her tears while laughing. I didn't know what to say to her. I didn't know what to say after finding out her devastating past. Just like before, she was a Sacred Gear possessor that had the power to heal even devils.

“This is also a trial that God gave me. Since I'm a clumsy nun, God gave me this trial so I have to endure it.”

She was laughing as if she was talking to herself. You don't have to say anything anymore....

“I'm sure I will make lots of friends one day. I have a dream. I want to go buy flowers with a friend.....and also go buy books and.....talk.....”

She was full of tears. I couldn't look at her anymore. She had been enduring it the whole time. She had been waiting for God to save her the whole time and was hiding her feelings all along.

Hey.

Hey God! What's the meaning of this!? Why don't you save this girl who has been longing for your help!? She has been respecting you the most!

What are you doing!?

Why aren't you doing anything!?

I don't even know anything about you! I also don't believe in any religion and to add to that I'm a devil! But even a devil like me can talk to her!

Weren't you the one that gave us the Sacred Gears?

This...! This is wrong!

Okay then. This is what I'm gonna do! Watch me! I grabbed her hand and looked at her eyes which were wet because of her tears.

"Asia, I will become your friend. No, we are already friends."

Asia seemed a bit confused to what I said.

"Even if I am a devil, it's alright. I won't take Asia's life and I won't take any price! You can call me whenever you feel like it! Ah, and I will also give you my number."

I put my hand inside my pocket to get my mobile phone out.

".....Why....."

"It's not why! You played with me for the whole day right? We talked right? We laughed right? Then we are friends! It doesn't matter if it's a human or a devil or about God! We are friends!"

".....Is that a pact with a devil.....?"

"It's not! We are going to become actual friends! We will put other things aside! We will talk when we want to, and we will play when we want to! Oh yeah, I will also go shopping with you! We will go shopping as much as you want! Okay!?"

I know that I suck at conversation. It's not even romantic. Kiba probably knows what to say at a time like this. But Asia put her hand on her mouth and started to cry. Though, this time her tears didn't seem sad.

".....Ise-san. I have no common sense."

“We could learn by going around the city! If you look at different things, you would learn eventually!”

“.....I can’t speak Japanese and I don’t know Japanese culture.....”

“I will teach you! I will even make you speak using a proverb! Leave it to me! We could even go to museum to look at Japanese national treasure! Samurai! Suchi! Geisha!”

“.....I don’t even know what to talk about.....”

I held Asia’s hand tightly.

“You talked to me normally for a whole day. That was okay. We were already talking like friends.”

“.....You will become my friend....?”

“I will be in your care from now on, Asia.”

She nodded her head and smiled. So now it’s okay. Now we are friends! Asia's sad past. I don’t know how she felt at that time. But I’m positive that I can keep her smiling from now on! Even a human and a devil can be friends! I thought it was impossible at first, but I don’t care anymore. Right now it doesn’t matter. I am definitely going to see her from now on as her friend! No one will get in our way! I will protect Asia!

“It’s impossible.”

The voice of a third person rejected all of my thoughts. When I looked in the direction of the voice, I was shocked. There was a person that I was familiar with. A slender girl with silky black hair. It was Amano Yuuma-chan.

“Yuuma-chan.....?”

She laughed over my voice as if she found it amusing.

“Heh. You survived. And to add to that, as a devil. Are you serious? That is the worst.”

Her voice wasn’t the same as the one I once knew. She sounded more like an adult who was bewitched.

“.....Reynalle-sama.....”

Asia called her by that name. Reynalle? Oh yeah I totally forgot. Amano Yuuma is a fallen-angel. That’s right. I almost forgot about that. So the fallen-angel Reynalle. So that’s her real name.

“What does a fallen-angel like you want.....?”

She made a sneer when I talked to her.

“I don’t want a filthy low-class devil like you talking to me.”

She stared at me as if she was looking at something very disgusting.

“That girl. Asia, is my personal belonging. Can I have her back? Asia it’s useless to run away.”

Run? What does she mean?

“No, I don’t want to.... I don’t want to go back to that church. I don’t want to go back to the people who kills other people.....Also you people did things to me.....”

Asia replies back with disgust. What happened? What happened inside that church?

“Please don’t say that Asia. Your Sacred Gear is essential for our plan. So please come back with me? I also took the time to look for you. Don’t make trouble for me.”

Reynalle approached us. Asia hid behind me. Her body was shaking with fear. I took a step ahead to cover her.

“Wait. Can’t you see she doesn’t want to? Yu-, no Reynalle-san. What are you going to do with her after taking her back?”

“Low-class devil, don’t call me by my name. My name will get filthy. What’s between us doesn’t have anything to do with you. If you don’t go back to your master’s place quickly, you will die you know?”

Reynalle was gathering light in her hand. Is it the spear? I was killed once because of it. I needed to make the first move!

“Sacred Gear!”

I called out my Sacred Gear and my left arm was covered with light. Then the light formed a red gauntlet on my arm. Yes! Successful! I practiced on how to make my Sacred Gear appear without making the posture from before! Reynalle was shocked to see my Sacred Gear, but it then turned into a sneer.

“I was told that your Sacred Gear was a dangerous one before from the higher-ups. But it looks like they were wrong.”

The fallen-angel started to laugh as if she found it amusing. What? What’s so funny?

“Your Sacred Gear is one of the ordinary ones. It’s called the “Twice critical”. It doubles the possessor's power for a certain time. But doubling your power is not a threat to me. Seriously, it suits a low-class devil like you.”

The ability which doubles the possessor's power? Is that the power of my Sacred Gear? And she said it's one of the ordinary..... But that's good enough for now. I need to evade her somehow, and run away with Asia! But where to? The school? I can't. I can't cause trouble for Buchou and the others. My house? How should I explain it to my parents? Damn it! I don't even know where to take Asia, even though I'm her friend! Ahhg! I will think about it later! First of all I need to beat this fallen-angel in front of me! Shit! It's the worst case that I have to fight my ex-girlfriend! Why do I always get into this mess?

“Sacred Gear! Activate damn it! You can double my power right!? Then activate!”

Then the jewel on the gauntlet started to glow.

BOOST!!

There was a sound. Then I felt power flowing into me. Is this what it means to double my powers!? Yes! With this.....!

STAB

Then there was a bad sound. I felt something stab my stomach. The spear of light. Again....

“Even if your power is doubled, you can't even evade this small spear I made. Even if the power of 1 is doubled, it's only 2. You can't narrow the power gap between us. Do you understand now low-class devil-kun?”

I fell down. This is bad. Light is poisonous. It's poisonous for a devil. And I was hit in my stomach. This is.... I had prepared myself for the intense pain followed by certain death, but I didn't feel any pain at all. When I looked, Asia was healing my wound. She had put her hand on my stomach and was healing my wound for me. The spear of light was getting smaller, and eventually disappeared. I didn't feel even the slightest pain. Instead I felt Asia's warmth.

“Asia, if you don't want that devil to be killed, come with me. Your Sacred Gear is essential for our plan. Your Sacred Gear “Twilight Healing” is special unlike the Sacred Gear of the devil over there. If you don't come with me, I will kill that devil.”

Reynalle gave a cruel order. I'm the hostage!? Like hell I would!

“Shut up! I can defeat you...!”

“Yes I understand.”

Without hearing me, Asia accepted the fallen-angel's order.

“Asia!”

“Ise-san, thank you for today. It was really fun.”

She made a big smile. My stomach had healed. After she confirmed it, she walked towards Reynalle.

“Good girl, Asia. That’s it. Now problem solved. With today’s ritual you will be freed from your suffering.”

Reynalle made a lecherous smile. Shit! She doesn’t look like the Yuuma-chan that I know!? Also what does she mean ritual!? It only sounds like something bad! I shouted to Asia.

“Asia! Wait! We're friends aren't we!?”

“Yes. Thank you for being friends with someone like me.”

I promised to protect Asia.

“I have to protect Asia...!”

She turned around but she was still smiling at me. I gazed at her smile for a moment.

“Goodbye.”

That was her farewell. Reynalle covered Asia with her black wings.

“Low-class devil. Looks like you were saved because of this girl. If you bother me again I will definitely kill you. Farewell Ise-kun.”

The fallen-angel who sneered at me flew up high holding Asia. They disappeared into the sky. The only thing left was me, Rache-kun that Asia had left behind and the black feathers. I couldn’t do anything..... “I will protect Asia”. What a laugh. I got on my knees and started punching the ground. I bit my teeth hard and there were tears of regret flowing out of me. Damn it. Damn it. Damn it!!!!!!

“Asia.....”

I called out my friend's name to the sky. There was no reply.

“Asiaaaaaaaa!!!!!!”

For the first time in my life, I cursed myself for being weak.

Life 4: Save a friend

SLAP.

The sound echoed in the club room.

The sound came from my cheek.

I was slapped.

Buchou slapped me on my cheek.

She had a serious expression.

"How many times do I have to repeat myself? No is no. I can't allow you to save that nun."

I visited the school after I couldn't save Asia. I then reported the story to Buchou. Even after I reported what happened, I proposed to go to that church.

Obviously, to save Asia.

But Buchou on the other hand said that she wouldn't get involved in this matter. I couldn't agree with her decision so I urged her to revert it even though I knew it was rude. That's why she slapped me.

The first time I ever got hurt so much.

Especially my heart hurts.

I have been betraying Buchou who had high expectations from me. But still there are things that I can't give up on.

"Then I will go by myself. I'm worried about the ritual thing. The fallen-angels are doing something from behind the scenes. There's no guarantee about Asia's safety."

"Are you really that stupid? You will definitely get killed if you go. You won't be able to come back alive anymore. Do you understand?"

Buchou tried to talk calmly but she was talking to me as if she was warning me.

"Your actions will affect not only me but also the other members! You are a devil of the Gremory faction! You need to be aware of that!"

"Then let me be out of this group. I'll go there as an individual."

"I can't do that! Why don't you understand?"

I think it's the first time I've seen Buchou this enraged. I have been causing a lot of trouble for Buchou. But there are things that I can't back down from.

"I became friends with Asia Argento. Asia is my important friend. I won't abandon my friend!"

".....That's a wonderful thing. I think it's amazing if you can say that. But that is different than what we are talking about now. The relationship between a devil and a fallen-angel is not as simple as you think. The two sides have been glaring at each other for hundreds, and thousands of years. If you show them a single gap of weakness, they will come and kill us. They are our enemy."

"Wasn't blowing the enemy the Gremory's way of doing things?"

"....."

We glared at each other. I didn't back off. I looked straight at her.

"That girl was originally from God's side. She is a person that we cannot ever coexist with. Even if she went with the fallen-angels, she is still the enemy of us devils."

"Asia isn't our enemy!"

I denied it strongly. A kind girl like her couldn't be our enemy!

"But she has nothing to do with us. Ise, you have to forget about her."

Even if she said it like that I couldn't forget about her!

Then Akeno-san came and whispered into Buchou's ear.

What is it? Did something happen?

Akeno-san also had a serious expression. But it looked like it was not because of our conversation. Buchou who was listening to Akeno-san made a serious face.

Just as I thought, something had definitely happened.

Buchou looked at me and then looked at the remaining members.

"I've got an urgent thing to do now. Akeno and I will go out for a bit."

No!

"Buchou! I haven't finished talking.....!"

Buchou put her index finger on my lips.

“Ise, there are couple of things I need to tell you. First of all, you think that a “Pawn” is a weak piece right? What is it?”

I answered her question quietly and nodded.

“That’s a big misunderstanding. “Pawn” has a special ability that no other pieces have. That ability is the “promotion”.”

Promotion? What is that?

“Just like the actual chess game, “Pawn” can change into other classes if they reach the opponent's base. It can promote to any other piece besides the “King” piece. Ise, you can promote to any piece besides the “King” in the location I acknowledge as an enemy’s territory.”

Oh man! So I can promote to Kiba’s “Knight” class, Koneko-chan’s “Rook” class, and also even Akeno-san’s “Queen” class!?

“Since it hasn’t been that long since you became a devil, there are restrictions, so it’s probably still impossible for you to be promoted to the ultimate piece, “Queen”. But you could change to other classes. If you wish strongly and say “promotion” with your heart, then there will be a change in your ability.”

That’s amazing! Just listening to it gave me a lot of information! If I added the promotion with my Sacred Gear, then I would perhaps beat that priest!

“Also one more thing. It’s about the Sacred Gear. When you use your Sacred Gear, just remember this.”

Buchou started to stroke my cheek.

“Desire. Sacred Gear’s power works on the user’s desire. It also determines the power as well. Even if you are a devil, your will to desire hasn’t been lost.”

Desire.

The power of desire makes the Sacred Gear activate..... So my power to desire will make this Sacred Gear works.

“There’s one last thing you should never forget, Ise. Even the “Pawn” can take down the “King”. This is basic in chess. This truth also applies in the devil’s chess pieces. You can become stronger.”

After saying that, she teleported to some place from the magic circle along with Akeno-san. The only ones left were me, Kiba, and Koneko-chan. After I took a deep breath, I was already determined to go and was about to leave.

“Hyoudou-kun.”

Kiba called me.

“Are you going?”

“Yeah, I am. I have to go because Asia is my friend. I am the one who has to save her.”

“.....You will get killed. Even if you have the Sacred Gear, and even if you use “promotion”, you can’t take down a group of exorcists and fallen-angels by yourself.”

Logical answer. I already knew that. I was very aware of that.

“I will still go. Even if I die, I will let Asia free.”

“I would say it’s a good determination, but it’s still reckless.”

“Then what am I supposed to do?”

I shouted at him, but he told me straight:

“I’m going too.”

“Wha....”

I lost my words after hearing something unexpected. That couldn’t be helped. I just heard something that I wasn’t expecting.

“I don’t know much about Asia-san, but you are my comrade. Even though Buchou said that, there’s a part of me that respects your decision. Also, I personally don’t like fallen-angels and priests. I detest them.”

This guy probably has some kind of past as well....But to hear the word “comrade” from him.....

“Remember what Buchou said? “You can promote to any pieces besides the “King” in the location I acknowledge as an enemy’s territory.” In other words she means that she acknowledges that the church is Rias Gremory’s enemy’s territory. Doesn’t it?”

“Ah.”

I finally realized. Oh, so that’s what she meant. That’s why she told me the information about “promotion”.

“Buchou said that she acknowledges you to go a long way. Of course it also means that I should support you as well. Buchou may have some kind of plan. If not, she would have stopped you by locking you up somewhere.”

Kiba laughed slightly. Buchou, thank you very much....! I had witnessed how gracious Buchou was once again, and thanked her from the bottom of my heart. If I come back safely, I will work harder! I was thanking Buchou who wasn't here silently, and a small build girl approached me.

".....I'm going as well."

"Huh, Koneko-chan?"

"....I feel uneasy if it's only two people going."

Koneko-chaaaaaan!! She didn't have any expression, but I felt the hidden kindness in her!

"I'm so deeply moved! Right now I'm so deeply moved by you, Koneko-chan!"

"Hu, huh? I'm going as well.....?"

Kiba was smiling with a sad expression. I know, Kiba. Thank you.

I thought that a troubled Casanova was a bit cute. Yes! With this it's possible! Yes!

"Then let's go for a rescue mission with the three of us! Wait for us Asia!"

Like this, the three of us headed to the church.

The sky was dark, and it was already the time when the street lamps were on.

The three of us, Kiba, Koneko-chan, and I, were examining the church from a place where we could see it. There was no one entering the church.

But the closer we got to the church, the stronger the bad feeling was.

A lot of bad sweat was coming from my body.

When I asked Kiba, he said that, "From this presence, it's certain that there is a fallen-angel inside".

So the enemy's boss was inside.

"Here, look at this map."

Kiba spread out the map of the building on the road. The map of the church. Where did he....?

“Well it’s basic when you are going into the enemy’s territory.”

The good looking guy makes a smile. Wow, what swift support. I didn’t even think about it and was trying to get in head on. I realized again how naive I was.

“Besides the sanctuary, there is also a dormitory. The sanctuary looks suspicious.”

Kiba pointed at the sanctuary.

“So we can ignore the dormitory.”

“Most likely. Most “exiled-exorcist” groups usually make some alteration to the sanctuary. They usually perform suspicious rituals under the sanctuary.”

“Why?”

I told him my doubt. Kiba made a bitter smile.

“It’s the place they used to respect as a holy place, and by doing something that rejects God there, it makes them satisfied because it’s an insult to God. Because they loved God, because they were rejected, that’s why they purposely cast evil spells under the sanctuary as a representation for their hatred.”

They are insane. No, even the God who cast away his faithful believers is at fault. Right now I hate God because of the incident with Asia. That’s why I think that way.

“The sanctuary is just behind the gates. I think we can go straight in. The problem is to find the door to the basement once we get in the sanctuary and also if we can defeat the assassins waiting for us.”

Assassins..... When I heard that word I started to have a bad premonition. We were in front of the church and under the moonlight.

We are determined! Now we only have to enter! Wait for me Asia!

We passed through the entrance and ran straight for the sanctuary. The fallen-angels had noticed that we had come in by this point.

In other words, the enemy had noticed that we had entered the territory.

There’s no going back.

The only thing left is to go straight in!

We opened the door, and stepped inside the sanctuary. There was an altar and long chairs. It looked like an ordinary sanctuary. The candle lights and the interior lamps lit the sanctuary.

Oh there was something that didn't seem normal..... The statue of the person on the cross had his head destroyed. What a creepy site.

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP

A clap echoed through the sanctuary.

Someone who looked like a priest showed up from behind the pillar.

When I looked at his face, I felt disgusted.

“Meeting! It's a reunion! So emotional!”

It's that white haired shitty priest! I think his name was Freed. It's him. So he's one of the assassins. He still has a weird smile like always.

“Well, I never met a devil twice before! See, because I'm super strong, I cut devils into pieces when I first meet them! Once I see them, I cut them up on the spot! I then kiss the corpse and say goodbye! That's how I used to live! But since you guys ruined my style, I'm so lost! That's no good! It's not good to interfere with my lifestyle! That's why! You guys piss me off! I hope you guys will die! Actually die! You trashy devilssssssss!!”

He was in a rage now. He took out the gun and sword from before.

BOOOM.

A light-sword appeared. It would be a bother to get cut by that sword. Also that gun was nasty as well. But it was different from before. It was 3 against 1.

“You guys came to rescue Asia-tan, right? Hahaha! Devil-samas are big hearted for coming to rescue a bitch like that who would even heal devils! Well, just being entranced to a devil should make that sister die!”

Die? What does he mean!?

“Hey, where is Asia!?”

“Well there are hidden stairs under that altar. From there you can go to the place where they are doing the ritual.”

That guy spilled out the location of the hidden basement by pointing at the altar. Does he even know that he has to stop us? Or did he spill it out because he's confident that it will be alright as long as he kills us?

“Sacred Gear!”

Synchronized with my shout, a red gauntlet appeared on my left arm. Equipping the Sacred Gear, completed! Okay! Kiba took his sword out from the sheath, and Koneko-chan.....

Huh! I was so shocked that my eyes were about to pop out.

Koneko-chan was lifting up the long chairs which were several times bigger than her.

“.....Get smashed.”

Koneko-chan threw the chairs at the priest! Super Girl, that was an unexpected method of attack!

“Wow! Oh yeah!”

The priest did a small dance and cut the chairs in half with his light-sword. The chairs which were cut in half hit the ground.



“There.”

SWIFT.

I thought Kiba went ahead, but he already had disappeared. He was so fast that I couldn't see him!

KATCHING.

There were sparks between Kiba's sword and the priest's light-sword. Is the light-sword solid? Even if Kiba slashes straight at him, I could only hear the sound of two metals hitting each other.

“Hmmm! Hmmm! Such a bother! Why are you guys so noisy? I'm sorry for talking in a death language! Forgive me after you die!”

Kiba dodged the soundless bullets with his proud legs, but he didn't stop his attacks. Kiba was amazing, he was dodging all of the priest's attack. But the priest was also something because he could fight on par with a devil.

Man, he stopped Kiba's slashes again! I can't catch Kiba's movements with my eyes but the priest can. So that shitty priest is not an opponent that I can take on by myself. Kiba and the priest started to battle head on. Both of them glared at each other.

“Impressive. You are strong.”

“Ahahahaha! You too! A “Knight”, huh!? Not even a single blind spot! Now this is great! Yes, yes. This is it. I haven't had a battle like this lately! I was about to cry because of it! Hmmm! Hmmm! I'm going to kill you!”

“Then I will fight seriously for a bit then.”

Fight seriously? What is he going to do?

“Eat this.”

Low pitched voice.

I couldn't believe it was Kiba's voice because it had some intensity in it. Then some black stuff came out of Kiba's sword. That thing covered the whole sword.

Darkness.

If I was to describe it, that would be the only thing.

The darkness covered the sword.

No, it was more like the darkness was shaping into Kiba's sword. The darkness sword which was clashing against the priest's light-sword was starting to expand and was engulfing the light-sword.

"Wha, what the hell is this!?"

The priest seemed confused.

"It's the "Holy-Eraser", a darkness sword which engulfs light."

"You are also a Sacred Gear possessor!?"

Sacred Gear! Kiba too!? I mean darkness-sword looks awesome! Dammit! So a good looking one gets a good looking weapon as well!? The priest's light-sword was so completely engulfed by Kiba's sword that its light had disappeared and it had lost its shape. Now! This is the chance! I went straight at him!

"Activate Sacred Gear!"

[BOOST!!]

A sound was coming from the jewel and I felt power flowing into my body. My aim was the shitty priest. The priest became aware of me moving towards him.

"That's why I'm saying it's annoying!"

He pointed his gun which was loaded with light-bullets at me. The bullets were shot without making any sound of gunshots. Here!

"Promotion, rook!"

The light-bullet turned into nothing after it couldn't pierce through me.

"Promotion!? A pawn!?"

The priest seemed really shocked.

Yeah, I'm a "Pawn".

The pawn who is going to bash you!

"The traits of "Rook"! Impossible defense and.....!"

My left fist hit the priest's face. But I felt something hard on my fist. But without thinking about it I punched as hard as I could. The priest was blown far back!

“Ridiculous attack strength.”

I laughed while breathing hard.

“That’s for hitting Asia that time. I feel relieved that I hit you once.”

The priest was getting up slowly and he spat his blood onto the ground. His right cheek was swollen.

Just that? I promoted to “Rook”, but looks like I still don’t have Koneko-chan's attacking power.

No, if I look carefully, his sword, which has only the handle part left, is smashed up. Did he used that as a shield just before getting punched by me? So that’s the hard thing I felt. He had a fast reaction.

“.....Hmmmmmm..... Huh...? Not only I got punched by a trashy devil, but he’s saying something that I don’t get.....to me..... Don’t fuck with me.”

The priest made a howl.

“Don’t fuck with me!! You shit!! You low life devil, don’t mess around with me!! I’ll kill you! Definitely! I’ll definitely kill you! I’m going to cut you into pieces, you shit!!”

The priest took out his second sword which only had the sheath. He still has it!? How many does he have!? But the three of us, me, Kiba, and Koneko-chan, were surrounding the priest. The priest noticed it, and he started to look around. He began to smirk.

“Wow, wow. Is this what you call a crisis? Well for me, getting killed by a devil is a no-no, so I feel like retreating. It’s a shame that I can’t exorcise you guys, but I also don’t want to die!”

The priest took out something round and smashed it on to the floor. Instantly our eyes were blinded with a shining light. Shit! A smoke screen!? When my eyesight was getting back, I looked around us with my eyes half opened, but the priest was gone. Then the priest’s voice came from somewhere.

“Hey. The grunt devil over there.....I think your name was Ise-kun? To tell you the truth, I have fallen in love with you. So I will definitely kill you. Definitely, okay? I won’t forgive a shitty devil who punched me and gave me a lecture, okay? Then, bye-bye.”

My eyesight was completely back so I took a look around again. But there were no traces of that priest left. He escaped.... He even left some parting words.... I was about to think about it, and realized that I had no time to waste on him. Kiba, Koneko-chan and I looked at each other and nodded and went towards the altar’s hidden stairs.

The three of us walked down the staircase under the altar. The light-lamp was active under the basement as well. With Kiba in front of us, we walked ahead. After the stairs, there was only one passage which led deeper in.

“Possibly at the end of this passage.....Because this smell is that person’s.....”

That’s what Koneko-chan said while pointing at that end of the passage. So Asia is there. Suddenly I started to get motivated. Wait for me Asia. I’ll be there soon! When we went further in, we found a big door.

“Is that it?”

“Possibly. I’m sure there are groups of exorcists and fallen-angels inside. Are you ready?”

Koneko-chan and I nodded at Kiba’s question.

“Okay. Then we’ll open the door.....”

When Kiba and I were about to open the door, the door opened by itself. While making a large noise, the inside of the ritual place became visible.

“Welcome devils.”

The fallen-angel, Reynalle, spoke from the end of the room. The room was full with priests. They all had a sword which makes the light-sword in their house. I looked at the girl who was attached to the cross and shouted:

“Asiaaaaaa!!”

Asia noticed my voice and looked at me.

“.....Ise-san?”

“Yeah! I’ve come to save you!”

I smiled at her and a tear dropped from her eye.

“It’s a touching reunion, but it’s too late. The ritual is about to finish now.”

The ritual is finished? What does she mean....? Suddenly Asia’s body started to glow.

“.....Aaaaaah, nooooooooo!!”

Asia screamed very painfully.

“Asia!”

I tried to reach her, but the priests surrounded me.

“I won’t let you interfere!”

“I will destroy you, devil!”

“Move, you bunch of shits! I don’t have time to bother with you all!”

BANG! It was a big sound. When I looked, Koneko-chan punched one of the priests away.

“.....Please don’t touch me.”

Kiba also drew his darkness-sword.

“Looks like I will have to go full throttle from the beginning. I hate priests. If there are this many, then I won’t hold back to devour your light.”

Kiba's eyes became sharp and I could feel he was getting heartless. The darkness was showing a very black killing intent. This would be an all-out war.

“Nooooo.....”

At the same time a large light came out of Asia’s body. Reynalle caught it with her hand.

“This is it! This is the power that I craved for for a long time! Sacred Gear! With this, I will be loved!”

With an expression of ecstasy, Reynalle hugged the light. Then the bright light wrapped up the ritual room. When the light stopped, there was a fallen-angel with green colored light pouring out from her body.

“Fufufu. Ahahahahaha! I finally have it! The supreme power! With this....! With this I can become a supreme fallen-angel! With this I can payback all those who were looking down on me!”

The fallen-angel gave a big laugh. I didn’t pay attention to her and went straight to Asia. The priests were trying to stop me, but Kiba and Koneko-chan supported me by beating them up. Kiba’s sword ate the light and Koneko-chan hit the priests with one full power hit. The combination of the two was remarkable, and it was obvious that it wasn't the type of combination possible with a few days of practice.

“Thanks, you two!”

Asia, who was attached to the cross, was lifeless. No, it's still okay! I untied the things on her hands and legs, and held her in my arms.

".....I.....Ise-san....."

"Asia, I came to take you back."

".....Yes."

When she replied, her voice was very small and it didn't sound lively. Hey! Hey! She should still be fine, right? She wouldn't.....

"It's futile."

Reynalle made a smirk while rejecting my thoughts once again.

"Possessors whose Sacred Gear are taken away from their body will die. That girl is going to die."

"!.....Then give the Sacred Gear back!"

I shouted at her, but she just laughed.

"There's no way that I will give it back. I even lied to my superiors to get my hands on this. I will kill all of you as well to erase all evidences."

".....Shit. You are nowhere close to the Yuuma-chan that I remember."

Hearing that she started to laugh out loud.

"Fufufu, it was pretty fun. The time I dated you."

"....You were my first girlfriend, you know?"

"Yes, watching it was very cute. It's fun to play around with guys who have no experience with girls."

".....I was serious about taking care of you, you know?"

"Fufufu. Yes, you did take care of me. When I was in trouble you managed to take care of it right away and made sure I didn't get hurt. But did you know that I did all of that on purpose? Because it was funny to see your face when you were confused."

".....I made sure I planned our first date carefully. To make sure it would become a great date."

"Ahahaha! Yeah, you are right! It was a very royal date! Thanks to it, I was very bored!"

“....Yuuma-chan.”

“To end it, I chose to kill you at dawn. Beautiful, right? What do you think, Ise-kun?”

My rage was past its limit. I shouted my anger at her:

“Reynalleeee!!”

“Ahahaha! I don’t want a rotten brat like you calling my name!”

Reynalle was making a sneer. I held so much hatred within me that my gut was going to turn black. I had never met scum like her in my whole life. She was the one you would call a real “devil”.

“Hyoudou-kun! Our formation is at a disadvantage while we are protecting that girl! So go upstairs at once! We’ll make the path for you! Now, hurry!”

Kiba said it while taking down the priests. He was right. There were still a great number of priests left, so fighting the fallen-angel while protecting Asia was hard. I glared at Reynalle, and then held Asia and left the place.

“Koneko-chan! We will make an escape path for Hyoudou-kun!”

“.....Affirmative.”

The two of them started to take down the priests who were trying to get in my way. Thanks to their support, I was able to get to the entrance of the ritual room.

“Kiba! Koneko-chan!”

“You go ahead! We will handle here!”

“.....Please go quickly.”

“But!”

“Just go!”

Damn! Kiba! Koneko-chan! Both of you are showing off too much! But now I will have to rely on them. My senior devils can’t die in a place like this!

“Kiba! Koneko-chan! When I get back call me “Ise”! Definitely! We are comrades!”

That’s what I said to them. I felt like the two of them smiled. I left the place and went straight to the passage at once.

I went up the stairs holding Asia, and came out to the sanctuary. There was something wrong with Asia. Her face was blue. I laid her down on one of the pews.

“Just wait a bit! You will be free soon, Asia! You will be able to play with me from now on!”

Asia smiled on my words. She then took my hand. I couldn't feel any strength or warmth from her hand.

“.....I was.....happy.....that I had a.....friend.....even for a short while.....”

Asia was smiling even though she was suffering a lot.

“.....If I were to be born again.....will you become my friend once more.....”

“What are you saying....!? Don't say that! Let's go somewhere to have fun! I will drag you even though you don't want to! We will go to karaoke! Game center! Let's also go bowling! Also other places! Also to that place! And there....!”

I couldn't stop my tears from coming out. I was supposed to be talking to her with a smile, but I couldn't stop crying. I knew. I already understood. This girl was dying. She was going to die. Even so, I wanted to deny it. This has to be a joke.....

“We are friends! Always! Oh yeah! I will introduce you to Motohama and Matsuda! They are a bit perverted but both of them are good guys! They will definitely become your friends! Definitely! We will have fun together! We'll have fun until we can!”

“.....If I was born in this country.....and went to the same school as you.....”

“Let's go! Come to our school!”

Asia's hand was patting my cheek.

“.....You even cry for someone like me.....now.....I.....can.....”

Her hand which was patting my cheeks dropped slowly.

“.....Thank you.....”

Those were her last words.

She passed away smiling. I lost my strength. I just stood there looking at her face. The tears wouldn't stop. Why? Why did this girl have to die? She was a good girl. She was a kind girl who would heal anyone injured. How come no one became her friend? How come I was never by her side?

“Hey God!? You are there right, God!? Devils and angels exists, so you do exist as well, right God!? You were watching right!? You were watching all of this right!?”

I shouted at the ceiling of the church. I didn’t know who was going to answer me. But I had to shout at heaven.

“Please don’t take this girl away!? Please! I beg you!? She hasn’t done anything!? She just wanted a friend! I will be her friend forever! So please! I want this girl to smile forever! Hey please! God!”

Even though I screamed towards heaven, there was no one to answer me.

“Did this happen because I turned into a devil!? Did you abandon her because I was her friend!?”

I grind my teeth with regret. I had no power. I didn’t have any power at all. If I had more power as a devil..... If I had power to at least save Asia..... Even if I regret it now, she will never smile again.

“Huh? A devil is repenting in a place like this? Or were you wishing for something?”

The voice I heard from behind was that of Reynalle. When I turned around there was a fallen-angel smirking at me.

“Look at this. This is the wound I got from the “Knight” boy while I was coming here.”

Reynalle placed her hand on her wound. The shallow green light started to heal her wound.

“Look. Wonderful isn’t it. I can heal any kind of wound. To us fallen-angels, who lost the protection of God, that child’s Sacred Gear is a special present.”

Oy. That light belongs to Asia. Why are you using it? Are Kiba and Koneko-chan safe? I started to wonder.

“A fallen-angel that can heal fallen-angels. My status will rise. I could be of help to those two. To the great Azazel-sama and Samyaza-sama! There is nothing more wonderful than this! Aaaaah, Azazel-sama.....my power is all for you.....”

“Like I care.”

I glared at Reynalle with anger.

“I don’t care about that. Fallen-angels, God, and devils..... Those things had nothing to do with this girl.”

“No, it did. She was a chosen human that possessed a Sacred Gear.”

“...Even so, she could have lived quietly. She could have lived normally!”

“She couldn’t. Those with irregular Sacred Gear would be left out of the world and groups. Because they have a powerful ability. Because they have a different power than others. You know humans hate those things, right? Even though it’s a wonderful power like this.”

“....Then I would have protected Asia, as her friend!”

“Ahahaha! It’s impossible! Because she died! That girl is dead, you know? It’s not the matter of whether you protect her or not. You couldn’t protect her! You really are a weird boy! Interesting!”

“.....I know. That’s why I can’t forgive you.....and myself.”

I couldn’t forgive everything. Myself who couldn’t protect Asia. Reynalle who killed Asia. Then Buchou’s words came into my mind.

"Desire. Sacred Gear’s power works by the user’s desire. It also determines the power as well."

“Give her back.”

"Even if you are a devil, your will to desire hasn’t been lost. The stronger your desire, the more the Sacred Gear will respond."

“Give Asia back!!!!”

[DRAGON BOOSTER!!]

The Sacred Gear on my left arm responded to my shout. The jewel in the gauntlet made a bright shine. Some mysterious mark appeared on the gauntlet. At the same time, power flowed into my body. From my left arm with the Sacred Gear to my whole body. I went ahead to punch at the fallen-angel smirking at me. Reynalle dodged it easily as if she was dancing.

“I will explain it so even a dummy like you can understand. It’s a simple power difference. I have a power of 1000. You have a power of 1. You cannot shorten the gap between us. Even with the ability of that Sacred Gear, the power doubled is only 2. It can’t be helped. How can you win against me!? Ahahahahaha!”

[BOOST!!]

Another sound from the jewel. The mark on the jewel on the gauntlet changes from [I] to [II].

[HEARTBEAT.]

There was a second change to my body. The power.....something is increasing to beat down the enemy in front of me.

“Aaaaaaaaaa!”

I went to punch again with the added power. I was already in “Rook” class by promotion.

“Wow! Did your power increase a bit? Still it’s not enough!”

My hit missed again. Next moment there were some lights in Reynalle’s hand forming into something.

“I put a lot of power in it! Eat this!”

SPISH

The spear of light pierced both my legs. It went deep into both of my thighs. Even with the defense of “Rook”, it couldn’t defend against it.

“Guaaaaaaaaah!!”

I screamed. I felt intense pain through my whole body, but I couldn’t get on my knees for something like this. I grabbed onto the spear immediately.

[BURNS]

“Guaaaaaaaaah!”

The sound of meat burning. Hot! It’s burning hot! Is it because it’s made up of light!? It started to burn the palm of my hand which was holding onto the spear. There was smoke coming from my hand and from the wounds of my thighs. It was intensely burning my palm and my legs. Reynalle started to laugh at me after watching me trying to pull out the spear.

“Ahahahaha! A devil trying to pull that spear out is stupidity! To devils lights are intense poison. Just touching it will make you burn. That is the ultimate pain that devils can taste! For a low-class devil like you, it’s.....”

“Nugaaaaaaaaah!”

I screamed which seemed impossible, but I grabbed onto the spear much stronger and tried to pull it out, bit by bit. The intense pain caused by the spear which was pierced through my legs. The intense pain which was done to me by the power of light. Those things were causing me so much pain. I was about to lose consciousness because of it. It seemed like I would die if I didn’t bite my teeth hard. So what about it? What about it!?

“This! That girl! This is nothing compared to what Asia went through!!”

I was taking out the spear slowly with tears and drool coming out of my face. It hurts. It hurts dammittttt! But this! What about this!

ZOOOM ZWESH

While making a horrible noise, the spear was being pulled out from my legs. When I got the spear out from both my legs, I dropped it from my hand and it disappeared before hitting the ground.

SPLASH

After losing the thing that was blocking the holes on my legs, blood started to flow from the wounds. Even though I took out the spear, the pain still remained.

[BOOST!!]

Even if I was pierced by the spear, the gauntlet on my left arm still made a sound even though I had stopped attacking. It hurts. It really hurts. I'm crying a lot and I have so much drool coming out from my mouth.

SLIP

I slipped onto my butt after I lost some strength in me. I don't have the strength to stand up. Shit, I don't have any strength in my legs. No, I don't have any strength left in my whole body. This is bad, isn't it?

".....Remarkable. A low-class devil pulling out the spear of light made by a fallen-angel. But it's futile. My light isn't flashy, but has a high killing ability against devils. The density of the light is strong. So strong that it becomes the light-blade of the priests. Getting hurt even once will be hard to heal, even for a middle-class devil. For a low-class devil like you, this is the limit. Fufufufu, you can't look down on the damage caused by the power of light, you know? Especially my light."

Like always, she was talking long about something I didn't understand.

"The light goes around your body, and gives damage to your whole body. If you are late at healing it, you will die. No, you will die normally. Strongly built, aren't you?"

Is that right? So for a trash like me who just became a devil, this wound is lethal, huh? Like I thought. I feel pain even inside my body. It's not the pain of getting hit but something worse.

It feels as if my muscles and bones are melting because of the heat. The pain is transmitted directly by my nerves so letting my guard down even once will feel like it's going to screw my head.

I will probably die if I don't get healed soon. But.... I can't just sit here. But I don't have any strength in my legs.

Shit.

Is this the end for me?

Then I looked at Asia.

A girl who was lying down silently. I'm sorry for being noisy. Yeah, I'm alright. I'm seriously fine. I'm quite strong built. So it's not a problem. See, look? I'm going to ease some of the regrets you have left, Asia.

“At times like this, are we supposed to pray to God?”

Suddenly I started talking without realizing it.

“?”

Reynalle seemed puzzled. But I continued talking.

“But God is useless. He didn't listen to me before, and he didn't even help a good girl like Asia as well. Hahahaha. Such a useless God.”

“What are you talking about? Did your head get fried as well?”

“Then, him. Maybe the Satan will listen to my wishes? It exists, right? Are you listening? I'm a devil as well, so will you listen to my wish?”

“.....He's totally lost it. This boy is talking to himself in a place like this.”

“I'm going to bash this shit in front of me, so will you make sure that no-one interferes? I seriously don't want anyone to interfere. I also don't need any back up. I will do it myself. And my legs are fine as well. I will get up on my own. So make it a one on one fight. It's a good place. I think I can handle the pain with my rage. Just one hit is okay. Please let me hit her.....”

My foot was moving. I had already lost sensation in my legs. Just moving it by a millimeter gave me intense pain. But it still moved. My butt was rising a bit from the floor. My body was shaking without stopping. But still, my body was trying to stand, bit by bit. It hurts. My whole body hurts. But it's moving. I can still move. I just have to endure it until I hit her once.

“.....! Impossible! Your body isn't in a condition to move! Because of the damage of light.....?”

I was getting close to Reynalle who had a shocked look on her face. I finally got up straight. I was right in front of her eyes. With my feet shaking and lots of blood flowing out of me.

“Hey, ex. I've been through a lot because of you.”

“.....You can't stand! A low-class devil can't stand up with those wounds! The lights are burning your insides from within your body!? A low-class devil who doesn't have the ability to ease the effect of light can't endure it!”

“Yeah, it hurts. It really hurts. I’m even close to losing my consciousness. But I can still endure it because of the hatred and anger I have against you.”

I glared straight at my opponent without even blinking. My next hit will be my last blow. If I use it, I will fall down. That’s why I have to finish it with my next hit. I can’t miss my target.

“Hey, my Sacred Gear. You still have the power to punch this thing in front of me, right? Then let’s finish it.”

[EXPLOSION!!]

The sound from the jewel sounded especially strong. The jewel shone, piercingly. Such a bright light. My eyes were dazzled. But unlike the light of a fallen-angel, this light didn’t give damage to me but gave me peace. Just getting touched by this light felt like I was flowing with more power. Similar to the light of Asia.

So there is a light that is positive to devils. I took a step forward. The blood splashed onto the ground from the wound. I also coughed some blood. Looks like I’m in a critical condition. There are also no limits to the pain I’m feeling reaching my brain.

But it’s okay, because I can still move. My gauntlet is still flowing out with power.

When I was against Reynalle at evening, I was scared of the power difference between Reynalle and myself. Possibly the devil instinct within me was making me shake because of the absolute power difference between us.

I thought that I could never beat her. But it was different now. The power I was receiving from this gauntlet was insane. But somehow I knew. Possibly because I was a Sacred Gear possessor. I knew that this power I was feeling wouldn’t last forever, and that it had a limited time. If I used it even once against the enemy, then it would be all used up.

Even though the Sacred Gear wasn’t telling me verbally, it was telling me physically. I made a posture to punch. I had no experience in fighting. But it would be over with one-hit. My target is the shit in front of me. I’m definitely going to hit her, and I’m not going to miss.

“.....Impossible. What is this? Why....? Things like this can’t happen..... That Sacred Gear is supposed to be the “Twice-critical”, a Sacred Gear which doubles the power of the possessor.....It can’t be. It’s impossible..... Why has your power surpassed mine....? The level of magical power I’m feeling.....the wave of demonic power is that of a middle-class.....no.....that of a high-class devil.....”

My power was that of a high-class devil? Is it because of my Sacred Gear? Huh? Weren’t you supposed to be a Sacred Gear that doubles my power? The only high-class devil that I have met is Buchou, so it means that I am currently about the same strength as her.

“Lies! This is all lies! I am the fallen-angel that has the ultimate healing power! I turned into a superior being by obtaining this “Twilight Healing”! I received the right to be loved by Azazel-sama and Samyaza-sama! I wouldn’t lose to someone low like you....!”

Reynalle once again had spears of light in both her hands.

PING

I hit it to the side with my fist. The spears of light disappeared. Reynalle’s expression changed to pale blue after seeing me reflect her spears.

“No....!”

Reynalle got her black wings out and was about to fly away. Was she trying to run away? Hey, you were looking down and laughing at me till a few seconds ago. Are you running away as soon as you find out that you can’t win? Such a spoiled girl. But I won’t let you escape. Like hell I would!

TAP

I went up to her at the same time she was to fly away and grabbed her arm. I had an unbelievable speed. A speed which even the fallen-angel couldn’t react to. The arm I grabbed was unreliable and slim and made her look weak. I pulled her arm towards me. I won’t let her go.

“I won’t let you get away, fool.”

“I’m superior.....!”

“Blow away, you shitty angel!”

“Damn you!! Low-class devil!!”

“Oryaaaaa!!”

The gauntlet released all of its energy. All the strength gathered in my left arm concentrated in my fist. I used that fist to punch straight and accurately the enemy I detested.

[HIT!!]

It made a very hard sound. My fist hit her face right at the point, and I pushed it away even further! Reynalle went flying backwards with my punch.

BANG!!

The fallen angel crashed into the wall while making a very loud noise. The wall broke and there was a big hole in the wall. Dust started spreading everywhere. When the dust disappeared, there

was nothing in the direction I punched Reynalle towards. The hole continued outside the building where Reynalle was on the ground. She wasn't moving. I couldn't tell if she was dead but she wouldn't move for a while. I'd finally paid her back.

"Serves you right."

I was smiling from the bottom of my heart. That punch felt so good. But soon, I was crying again.

".....Asia"

She won't smile ever again.

I was about to fall after punching the fallen-angel.....

TAP

Something supported me. When I looked, it was Kiba.

"Good work. You actually beat a fallen-angel."

He gave me a smile while supporting me. Huh, even Kiba looks torn.

"Yo, you are late Casanova."

"Hahaha, Buchou told me not to interfere."

Buchou did?

"That's right. I believed that you were able to beat the fallen-angel Reynalle."

When I turned around, Rias Buchou was walking towards me smiling.

"Buchou? Where did you come from?"

"From the basement. I finished my business, so I used the magic circle to transport me here. I was nervous because it was my first time transporting to a church."

Buchou made a sigh while talking to me. So that's why she came from downstairs with Kiba and the others. Then all of the exorcists were taken down then. If Buchou was their opponent, then they had no chance of winning. Then Koneko-chan walked past me. Where was she going? Buchou appeared in front of me.

“So you won.”

“Buchou..... Hahaha, somehow I won.”

“Fufufu, excellent. Just what I expected from my servant.”

She tapped on my nose.

“Oh my. The church is in a mess. Is it alright, Buchou?”

Akeno-san had a troubled face.

“.....Is something wrong?”

I asked Buchou.

“Churchs belongs to God or religions related to him, but there are cases like this where it is used by fallen-angels. Then if we devils damage the church, there will be times when we get targeted by assassins. For revenge and hatred.”

.....Are you serious?

“But it won’t happen this time.”

“Why is that?”

“This church was originally an abandoned one. So a certain group of fallen-angels has come here to use it for its own greed. We just happened to have a fight in a place like that. So we didn’t step foot on the enemies actual territory to have war. So it’s just a small fight between a devil and a fallen-angel. That happens anywhere, every year. That’s what happened.”

I see. So it’s a matter of fact of how you sum it up.

“Buchou, I’ve brought it.”

Koneko-chan appeared with the sound of her dragging something. She appeared from the broken wall, and what she was dragging was a black wing, fallen-angel Reynalle. Koneko-chan was dragging the unconscious Reynalle whom I had punched away. But she said she “brought” it..... Like always she uses unique words for a silent girl.

“Thank you Koneko. Let’s wake her up. Akeno.”

“Yes.”

Akeno-san lifted her hand up. Then water appeared up in the air. Is that the power of magic? Akeno-san dropped the water created on Reynalle.

SPLASH

“Cough! Cough!”

Reynalle coughed after getting splashed by water. The fallen-angel woke up and opened her eyes. Buchou looked down on her.

“How are you doing, fallen-angel, Reynalle?”

“..... You are the daughter of the Gremory Household.....?”

“Hello, my name is Rias Gremory. I’m the next heir of the Gremory Household. It will be for a short while, but nice to have your acquaintance.”

Buchou greeted her with a smile, but Reynalle glared at her. Then she sneered.

“.....You think you’ve got me, but too bad. This plan was kept secret from the higher-ups, but there are other fallen-angels with me. If I get in danger, they will.....”

“They won’t come to help.”

Buchou said it clearly to reject Reynalle’s words.

“That’s because I already eliminated all three of the fallen-angels, Calawana, Donnasiege, and Mitelt.”

“Liar!”

Reynalle rejected what Buchou said while sitting up straight. Buchou got three black feathers out.

“These are the feathers of those three. You can tell them apart since you are the same kind as them, right?”

Reynalle lost hope after she saw the feathers. Looks like what Buchou said was true.

“I knew that there were a few fallen-angels plotting something in this town, after meeting the fallen-angel that assaulted Ise, Donnasiege. But I ignored it because I thought that it was a plan that involved a whole group of fallen-angels. Even I’m not foolish enough to take on all of the fallen-angels. Then I heard that the fallen-angels were moving around secretly so I went to talk to them, taking Akeno with me. When I met them in person, they blurted that it was their own plan. By helping you they said they would get promoted to a higher status. Low lifes who move around secretly usually brag about their plot.”

Buchou smirked. Reynalle was biting her teeth with frustration.

“They looked down on us because it was just two girls who approached them. So I asked them as a parting gift. Fufufu, they talked without realizing who was the one to die. Such foolish fallen-angels. Since they were willing to help in your pathetic plot, they themselves were low beings.”

That’s why. The “thing” Buchou needed to take care of was that. She took down the other remaining fallen-angels..... Buchou was thinking about this whole incident as well..... Without knowing it, I said bad stuff about her.... Crap. I feel like crying.

“Getting hit by a single shot won’t even leave a trace. The princess of the Duke who has the power of “destruction”. Buchou is a powerful devil who is called a genius among the group of young devils.”

Kiba made a comment to brag about his master.

“One of her nicknames is “Crimson-hair Ruin-princess”, you know? That’s whom you were up against.”

Akeno-san said it while smiling. Ru...ruin princess.... What a scary nickname..... So that makes me a part of the Crimson-hair Ruin-princess’s group. Man.... terrifying.... Buchou looked at my left arm. I think she was looking at my gauntlet.

“...Red dragon. Until recently there wasn’t a mark like this... So that’s what it is...”

Is it me or does Buchou's eyes look as if she's shocked?

“I found out the main reason why Ise was able to beat a fallen-angel.”

Buchou said it quietly.

“Fallen-angel Reynalle. This boy, Hyoudou Issei’s Sacred Gear isn’t a regular Sacred Gear. That’s why you lost.”

Reynalle had a puzzled face after hearing Buchou.

“Red-dragon-emperor’s gauntlet, the “Boosted Gear”. It’s a Sacred Gear that is said to be the rarest of the rare. The red dragon mark on the gauntlet is the evidence. Even you have heard of that name before, right?”

After listening to Buchou, Reynalle had a very shocked expression.

“The “Boosted Gear”..... One of the “Longinus”.....The ability to attain the power that surpasses Devil-lords and God for a certain time.... That cursed Sacred Gear is possessed by a child like this!?”

“According to the legends, in human’s time it doubles the possessor’s power every 10 seconds, that’s the ability of “Boosted Gear”. Even if his power starts from 1, it doubles his power every

10 seconds, and it can reach the leader-class fallen-angels and high-class devils. By mastering it, he could even kill God.”

Are you serious Buchou!? I can defeat God!?That’s the power of my Sacred Gear.... There was a mark of a red-dragon carved into my gauntlet. So the reason why it had kept on saying “BOOST, BOOST” was because it was doubling my power. So that’s why I felt even more power was growing within me. So Reynalle was scared of me because I had attained a power that surpassed her. Such a powerful Sacred Gear.... I looked at the Sacred Gear on my left arm fearfully. Boosted Gear. My Sacred Gear. This is an incredible Sacred Gear.

Oh, does this mean I can leave a legend as a devil?

“But even if it is a powerful Sacred Gear, it still has a big risk of needing time. There aren’t that many enemies that would wait for the user to get stronger. Since the opponent was taking it lightly, this was the outcome.”

Nnnn! Buchou nailed it. Just like she said, there aren't that many enemies that would wait for me to get powered up. So my Sacred Gear is powerful but it has some weakness.

Buchou approached me. Her crimson hair smelled nice.

PAT PAT.

Buchou started patting my head.

“But it’s interesting. Just to be expected from my servant-kun. Ise is an interesting boy just like I thought. Fufufu, I’m going to spoil you even more.”

Buchou smiled at me. It was a nice smile, but it looked a bit scary...

“Buchou?”

“What is it?”

Buchou was smiling but I felt bad so I bowed my head down.

“I’m sorry. When I said I was going to save Asia and said rude stuff to you because you wouldn’t help... But you were working...and I...”

I just wanted to apologize. I thought that Buchou was a cold hearted devil. So I kept on being rude to her. So I needed to say how sorry I was. But Buchou was still patting my head. I was crying. Yes, because I couldn’t do what I came here for.

“Buchou... I...couldn’t...protect Asia...”

“You don’t have to cry. No one would blame you after seeing you now. “

“But...I.....”

Buchou wiped my tears with her fingers.

“It’s okay. You weren’t experienced as a devil yet. That’s it. Become strong. I’m going to make you work hard from now on so be prepared, my pawn, Ise.”

“Yes.”

I will work hard. I will definitely become stronger. I promise.

“Then let’s finish this business.”

Buchou’s eyes became sharp and looked ruthless. Buchou got close to Reynalle. The fallen-angel became scared.

“I will have you disappear, fallen-angel-san.”

It was a cold-tone filled with killing intent.

“Of course, I will retrieve that Sacred Gear back as well.”

“You can’t be serious!? This healing power is for Azazel-sama and Samyaza-sama.....”

“To live your life for love is beautiful. But you are too tainted with dirt. You have no elegance. And I don’t allow that.”

Buchou aimed her hand towards Reynalle. Looks like she will kill her in one blow.

“Me, here.”

Then a shadow appeared from behind the broken wall. The priest Freed Selzan. It was that shitty priest! He escaped before and came back!

“Wow! My superior is in serious danger! So what’s going to happen now!?”

Reynalle shouted at the appearance of the priest:

“Save me! If you save me I will give you a reward or something!”

Freed made a sadistic smile.

“Hmmm. Hmmm. I received a beautiful order from an angel. Huh? So I can have sex with you? To me, having sex with an angel is like the best honour. It would become a good social status for me.”

“Ku....Don’t fool around and save me!”

The fallen-angel’s face changed with anger. It also seemed like she was in a rush. No, she was in a rush. She probably thought that a mere human wouldn’t betray her or something like that.

“Ararararara, you know that I’m actually serious.....I mean something minor like that should be alright. Isn’t it angel-sama? So it’s a no? Is that so? Then I will take my leave now. No matter how you look at it, I’m at a disadvantage so I will just take off.”

Freed said it in a funny tone while curling his body.

“You are a priest, aren’t you!? You are supposed to save me! I’m an all mighty fallen-angel! I....”

“I don’t need a superior who loses to scum, devils. You are pretty but you lack plans and you are hard headed. The only thing you are useful for is for masturbation. So just die away already. Well, a fallen-angel who is abandoned by the God won’t go to either heaven or hell but goes back to nothing. Maybe the experience of turning into nothing will be helpful? Oh that’s impossible, because there will be nothing left. It’s impossible, hahaha. So namusan. Wait that’s Buddhism. Oh yeah, I’m a former Christian! I’m such a naughty boy! Hahahaha!”

After saying it he moved his sight elsewhere, as if he had lost interest in Reynalle. With that, Reynalle made an expression of despair. She looked miserable. Is this the same fallen-angel who was gathering power and making a rampage? Freed made a big smile at me. Huh? Me?

“Ise-kun, Ise-kun. You have such a wonderful ability. I’m getting more interested in you. You are so worthy to kill! You are definitely in my “Top 5 devils killing list” so be prepared, okay? The next time we meet; let’s have a romantic fight to the death, okay?”

I felt something cold running through my back. That guy was smiling but had an extreme killing intent. A challenge directed at me. No, an advanced notice for killing me.

“See ya then! Bye-bye! Remember to brush your teeth!”

Freed disappeared immediately from the scene after waving his hands at us. He was quick. He just left like that. But somehow I felt that I would meet him again. It was not a premonition but something weirder.

“Now, the fallen-angel Reynalle, who was abandoned by her own servant. Miserable.”

Buchou didn’t have the slightest sympathy in her tone. Reynalle started to shiver. Maybe I felt a bit sorry for her because she was my ex-girlfriend “Yuuma—chan”, perhaps. Well, that was also part of her sick plan. Reynalle then looked at me. She then made sorrowful eyes at me.

“Ise-kun! Please save me!”

Her voice was that of Yuuma-chan, when she was my girlfriend.

“This devil is trying to kill me! I love you! I love you so much! That’s why let’s defeat this devil together!”

Reynalle acted like Yuuma-chan again, and appealed for help to me while crying. I was stupid for feeling a bit sorry for you, Yuuma-chan. No, fallen-angel.

“Goodbye my love. Buchou, I’m at my limit... Will you please....”

After hearing that, the fallen-angel froze.

“.....Don’t try to flirt with my cute servant. Disappear.”

BANG!

The magical ball shot by Buchou left nothing of the fallen-angel. The only thing left was the mysterious feeling I had and the black feathers floating around the church.

There was a green light floating in the sanctuary. It was Asia’s Sacred Gear. It was released after Reynalle died. The warm light shines at me. Buchou put the light on her hand.

“Now, let’s give this back to Asia Argento-san.”

“But...Asia is already....”

Asia couldn’t be resurrected anymore. After all I couldn’t save her. I had promised to protect her! I had promised to save her! Even though I defeated the fallen-angel, I couldn’t save her. So it was pointless to come here..... No, that would be an insult to my comrades. They fought for me and Asia. They didn’t even get a single benefit from it.

“...Buchou, everyone, thanks for fighting for me and Asia. But still, even with all your help, Asia is.....”

“Ise, what do you think this is?”

Buchou took something out from her pocket. It’s red.... It’s red like blood. It was a chess piece that has the same colour as Buchou’s hair.



“What’s that?”

“Ise, this is a “Bishop” chess piece.”

“Huh?”

I made an idiotic reply because of the sudden answer.

“I’m late in telling you this now but a devil with a peerage receives 15 chess pieces in total, made up of 8 “Pawns”, 2 “Knights”, 2 “Bishops”, 2 “Rooks”, and 1 “Queen”. Same as in an actual chess game. I already used one of my “Bishops” and I still have another one left.”

Buchou then walked towards Asia while holding the red chess piece in her hand. Buchou placed the red “Bishop” chess piece on Asia’s chest.

“The bishop’s role is to support the other members of the group. This girl’s healing power could be useful as a bishop. It never happened before, but I will reincarnate this girl as a devil.”

A crimson flow of magic power surrounded Buchou’s body.

“I order, in my name Rias Gremory. You, Asia Argento. I, resurrect you back to this soil as my servant, and be reborn as a devil. You, my “Bishop”, with a new life, be delighted!”

The red chess piece glowed and went inside Asia’s body. At the same time Asia’s Sacred Gear went back inside her body. Buchou stopped her magic after confirming the chess piece and the Sacred Gear went inside Asia’s body. Then Buchou made a sigh. I just looked at her in a daze. After a short while Asia opened her eyes. I couldn’t stop my tears from coming out after I saw her.

“Huh?”

Asia’s voice. The voice that I thought I could never hear again. Rias-buchou gave me a warm smile.

“I resurrected her because I wanted her power which can even heal a devil. Fufufu, Ise from now on you’ll protect her. Since you will be her senior devil.”

Asia raised her upper body. She looked around and found me.

“.....Ise-san?”

I hugged Asia who made a puzzled look.

“Let’s go home, Asia.”

New Life

‘YOU HAVE TO WAKE UP! PUT SOME SPIRIT IN IT!’

I got up from my bed after getting woken up by the “boyish-girl alarm clock”. I set it one hour earlier than usual. I needed to go to the club room even if I had to scratch my eyes! I left the room after getting into my uniform.

“Oh, you came.”

When I got into the club room, only Buchou was present. The school hadn’t started yet. I came here early because last evening we were told that we would have a meeting in the morning. Buchou was sitting on the sofa drinking green-tea.

“Good morning, Buchou.”

“Yes, good morning. Looks like you have gotten used to the morning.”

“Yes, thanks to you.”

She then looked at my legs.

“How’s the wound from the fallen-angel?”

I had my thighs pierced by the spear of light from the battle a day ago.

“Yes, it’s healed thanks to the healing power.”

I answered with a smile.

“Is that so? That girl’s healing power is very impressive. I can see why a single fallen-angel would desire it, even keeping it a secret from its superiors.”

I sat on a chair opposite Buchou. There were a few things I wanted to ask her.

“Ummm Buchou? If there is the same number of evil pieces as in chess itself, then it’s possible to get 7 other pawns besides me, right? So will there be a day when another pawn besides me will join?”

Yes. Just like the real chess, there are 8 pawn pieces. So it’s possible to get more pawn pieces besides me. I asked her because it was going to happen one day. But Buchou shook her head to my question.

“No, the only “Pawn” I will have is Ise.”

Huh? Should I be happy? Is it a confession? Something like “Ise is the only one I want!” or something like that?

“When reincarnating a human to a devil we use the evil pieces, but it depends on the reincarnated person’s ability and therefore it may consume more chess pieces.”

.....So it’s not a confession..... Huh? Chess consumption?

“There’s a saying in the world of chess. Queens have a value of 9 pawns. Rooks have a value of 5 pawns. Knights and Bishops have a value of 3 pawns each. Just like that, there are standard values which also apply to the evil-pieces. Similar phenomenon happens to the reincarnated persons. There are people who require 2 knight pieces to be reincarnated, and also people who need 2 rook pieces to be reincarnated. There’s also the compatibility of the pieces as well. You can’t use 2 separate pieces to give them different roles, so it’s important to think how to use the pieces. Since you don’t get new pieces once you use it.”

“How is that related to me?”

“Ise, I used all of the “Pawn” pieces when I resurrected you. If I didn’t, I couldn’t make you into a devil.”

All!? Seriously? So I have a value of 8 pawn pieces.

“When I found out, I decided to definitely make you into my servant. But I couldn’t find the reason for a while. But now I’m convinced. The Sacred Gear which is said to be superior, one of the 'Longinus', the 'Boosted Gear'. And you, Ise, who have it. That’s why you had that much value.”

I looked at my left arm. The red gauntlet. A hacked power, which doubles my power every 10 seconds. Depending on how I use it, it’s said that I can even kill God. This Sacred Gear is too good for me, but since I have it, it can’t be helped.

“When I was trying to reincarnate you, the only pieces I had left were 1 Knight, 1 Rook, 1 Bishop and 8 Pawns. To make you into my servant, I could only use all 8 pieces of Pawn. The other pieces didn’t have the power to reincarnate you. But to begin with, the value of “Pawn” is still a mystery. Also because of “Promotion”. That’s why I gambled on that possibility. As a result, you were the best.”

Buchou smiled happily. She patted my cheeks with her fingers.

“Our matching is also great since its crimson and red, 'Crimson-hair Ruin-princess' and 'Red-dragon-emperor’s gauntlet'. Ise, first of all, aim to become the ultimate 'Pawn'. If it’s you, you can definitely do it. Because you are my adorable servant.”

The ultimate “Pawn”. It sounds so great. Buchou brought her face closer when I was thinking about it. Close! You are too close Buchou! Then Buchou’s lips touched my forehead.

“This is a good luck charm. Get stronger, okay?”

Kiss on the forehead....

I became unsteady because of what just happened. Uoo. Uooo. Uoooooooooooo!! Something triggered in my head! I am so happy that I’m about to dance! Oh man! Oh man! My first kiss from a girl! It wasn’t a kiss on the lips or cheeks, but there’s nothing happier than this! I was about to cry because of the joy! I will work harder Buchou! I promise with this kiss! I definitely will!

“I probably should stop here for now, adoring you. The new girl will get jealous of me.”

Jealous? What is she talking about?

“Ise-san....?”

A voice came from behind me. I knew this voice. When I turned around it was the blond girl, Asia, who was trying to smile.

“A...Asia?”

Huh? Is she mad? Why?

“It has to be..... Rias-buchou is very beautiful, so even Ise-san will also..... No, no! I can’t think like that! Oh God. Please forgive my sinful heart.”

Asia made a prayer but she then screams “ouch”.

“I have a headache.”

“Of course. If a devil praises God, of course you will receive damage.”

Buchou said that normally.

“That’s right... I turned into a devil. I can’t face God anymore.”

Asia seemed a bit troubled. Asia, please don’t make a sad face like that.

“Do you regret it?”

Buchou asked Asia. Asia shook her head.

“No, thank you very much. I’m happy as long as I am with Ise-san, so I’m fine even if I’m a different person.”

My face started to turn red because of her embarrassing reply. Ummm, something like this makes me happy. For a guy, it’s the ultimate praise. After hearing that, Buchou smiled.

“If so, then it’s okay. From today you will be my servant, and I will make you work along with Ise.”

“Yes! I will do my best!”

Asia replied very energetically. She had to do the leaflet handing first, but I wondered if she would be alright? I felt uneasy. Then I realized the difference with Asia. Why didn’t I realize it until now?

“Asia, that uniform...?”

Yes, Asia was wearing the school uniform of the school I go to. Kuou Academy’s girl uniform.

“Does it suit me?”

She asked me shyly. Of course! Another goddess had descended to our school! I could already hear the guys in our school talking about her. You look great!

“It’s the best! Let’s take a photo with only the 2 of us.”

“Umm, yes.”

She was troubled with how to react, but it's true that she looked cute in it. Aaaah, my school life was becoming glorious!

“I made Asia attend our school. Since she is about the same age as you, she’s also in 2nd year. Since I made it her first day transferring, make sure to look after her.”

Buchou said that to me. Are you serious!? My class!? Asia will be in my class!?

“I will be in your care, Ise-san.”

Asia bowed her head. I already started to imagine introducing Asia to Matsuda and Motohama. I couldn’t stop laughing, thinking about how jealous they would get.

“Yeah. I will introduce you to two of my pals.”

“Yes, I’m looking forward to it.”

Fufufu, Matsuda and Motohama, looks like I'm getting closer to becoming an adult more than both of you. Pals, my life as an unpopular guy is over!

While I was imagining that, Kiba, Koneko-chan and Akeno-san entered the room.

“Good morning Buchou, Ise-kun, Asia-san.”

“.....Good morning Buchou, Ise-senpai, Asia-senpai.”

“How are you all doing Buchou, Ise-kun, Asia-san?”

Everyone greeted us. Everyone called me “Ise” and acknowledged Asia as a member. It's great. There's nothing better than this. Buchou stood up.

“Since everyone is here, shall we start the party?”

Buchou made a sound with her finger after saying that. Then there a big cake appeared on the table. Is this magic as well?

"It might be good sometimes to gather in the morning to do these kind of things, right? Since we got new members, I made some cake, so let's eat everyone."

Buchou said it shyly. But handmade cake! I will gladly eat it! Buchou, first of all I will aim to become the ultimate “Pawn”. I will work hard along with Buchou, Asia, Kiba, Koneko-chan and Akeno-san. After making a promise to myself, I started to get ready to do kamehameha to rise up the mood.

Afterword

The last boss of this book is the “Dragon-king of Darkness”, Black Satan: who holds a grudge against the main character. It’s going to end with a fierce fight where the main character uses his ultimate technique, “Shot of Chaos”, and the last boss uses “Dark Breath Type 0”. Then the last boss gets defeated. At the end, the main character flies up the sky with the heroine heading for their love. This is how this book will be. Hahaha! I spoiled it for those who read the afterword first!

It’s a lie. Sorry. No one like that will appear in this book. I got carried away because there are those who reads afterword first. But I’m regretting it.

Hello it’s Ishibumi Ichiei. How was “High school DxD”, in shortcut “DxD”? I’m feeling nervous because it’s been two years since I last published a book. I was so nervous that I wrote the afterword suspiciously from the beginning. People who are reading my book for the first time may think, “What’s wrong with this author? Oppai, oppai, oppai, oppai! Is he from the oppai planet!?”. And people who read my book before will be like “Huh? This is written by the horror author Ishibumi right? What happened to him –oppai?”. So many things happen to adults, you know. Well, just think that I changed my style for this series.

This time, the story will be very lively and erotic! That’s because the editor in charge said, “Let’s make the main character into a lecherous guy”..... It was fun writing it! I was also having fun doing it. The main characters of harem series are usually the skinny ones, or guys with a strong sense of justice but who lack in these department. That’s why I made the main character into a guy who loves girls and is really stupid. The story is also from Ise’s view, so I made it so the reader will be like, “No. That’s wrong. Think a little bit.”. Ise isn’t smart like everyone and is super dumb so please look at him with warm eyes. Well, it seems like there are a few more pages left for the afterword so I will talk about the outline for this series.

High school DxD’s genre is love-comedy/school/battle/fantasy and is about how Hyoudou Issei rises up. It’s long but I’m sure those people who have read this already know the names of the genres. The main character is Ise. The secondary-main character and the main heroine is Rias-buchou. And Asia is the other heroine. It’s a story about the main character and the two heroines. Basically, this story revolves around these three where Kiba, Koneko-chan, and Akeno-san cause destruction. The occult research club members, the servant devils of Rias Gremory, uses the Kuou academy as a base and does the job of devils, and makes a slapstick, fighting angels and fallen-angels, and getting in contact with legendary beasts and items! Well that’s the plan. The concept is that “love, dream and battles are also part of youth”.

Devils and angels are the main protagonists and, during the series, names of those from myths and legend will appear but basically this series is written with no restriction. In other words the

events written in the bible and non-fiction books are just used for reference and the author, that is me, writes it freely with an original story. Just think that the majority of things related to angels and devils are made up in DxD. Well there's no way that the word "evil-piece" won't appear in the bible. The war between the three factions: devils, God, and fallen-angels, has finished a few hundred years ago, and the story revolves around the devils and angels after the war. It starts off when the famous angels and devils have already passed away. Well, there are other things in my mind. For example bringing stuff from Norse mythology and also from Japanese youkai. Basically it's a setting where anything is possible.

I'm sure that there are those who hold both doubts and hopes for Rias-buchou's servants after reading this volume. For example who is the other "Bishop" that Buchou already has? I have already decided to make that person appear as the story's progression, and I'm sure that person will appear if this series continues on. Also will the other "pieces" be filled up? Buchou has 1 "Knight" and 1 "Rook" pieces left. Similar to the "Bishop", I will fill this in if this series continues. Huh? It's not explained well? No, no. I already have them prepared so I just need the support of everyone. The release of volume 2 will be decided on the sales of volume 1, but "High school DxD" will be more erotic if it goes on. Mainly Rias-buchou and Asia. In volume 2 I'm planning to do a really amazing part. I mean, amazing. But it might finish in a dream. Please support me if you are looking forward to Buchou's oppai.

Now to my thanks.

To my former editor in charge who brought this talk to me, K-sama. And to the current editor in charge who has been by my side the whole time, H-sama. Thank you very much for looking after me. Thanks to that, "High school DxD" has been released. I want to say it to the two again. Thank you very much.

To Miyama-zero-san who did the illustrations. Thank you for the beautiful illustrations. I was moved because Buchou and Asia were drawn just like I imagined. Sorry for making you really busy with the designs of the uniform and the appearance of the characters.

And to the authors who debuted at the same time as me! I have really made you guys worried! Thank you for cheering me up every time we went drinking! Thanks to that, I'm back in action!

And to my friends! Sorry for troubling you guys! I somehow managed to release a book! Thanks for cheering me up last year! Let's go out to eat next time. The thanks end here.

Thank you to my editor, the authors, and my friends! Thank you very much. I will work hard so this series will continue on.

Oh and I also do a blog. I started it last year so please feel free to visit anytime. Well, I only talk

about pokemon and gundam..... Well I'm thinking that it will be good if I can sometime talk about DxD.

Ishibumi Ichiei's blog “イチブイ (Ichibui)”.

<http://ishibumi.exblog.jp>

Lastly there's something I want to say to a certain person. It's only a few lines so please forgive me.

To my father who passed away when I was preparing for volume 1.

Dad, I released my book safely. Sorry for making you worry.

Ishibumi Ichiei

Translation Notes

1. Expression of gratitude before meal



9784829133262



1920193005806

ISBN978-4-8291-3326-2

C0193 ¥580E

定価：本体580円(税別)

富士見書房

ハイスクールD×D1

旧校舎のディアボロス

ひょうどういつせい
俺、兵藤一誠は、年齢=彼女いない歴の高校2年生。そんな俺に彼女ができた！友よすまん、俺は一足早く大人の階段を上がる！——はずだったのに、なんで俺は彼女に殺されてるんだ!?

まだなーんにもしていないのに、この世は神も仏もないのか!?

そんな俺を救ったのは学校一の美少女、リアス・グレモリー先輩。神でも仏でもなく悪魔だという彼女の口から、衝撃の事実。

「あなたは悪魔として転生したの。私のために働きなさい!」

先輩のおっぱいとご褒美ほうびにつられた、俺の下僕悪魔としての人生はこうして幕を開けるのだった。

勢いと煩惱ぼんのうのみで贈る、学園ラブコメバトルファンタジー開幕!